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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTH.

On the 18th instant, at "Fair View," Kowloon, the wife of FRANK SMYTH, of a son. [1437]

MARRIAGE.

On the 18th instant, by Rev. L. Lloyd, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, GEORGE WHITE, to LOUISE HULDA EMILIE BROST, only daughter of Heinrich Brost, of Kowloon Docks. [1446]

DEATHS.

At Miyanoshta, Japan, on the 28th May, 1896, ELLA, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. SCHÜRCH, Canton, at the age of 6 months and 13 days. [1438]
At Kobe, on the night of the 14th June, J. J. ENSLIE, H.B.M.'s Consul for Hyogo and Osaka.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 22nd May arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 20th June (29 days); the American mail of the 28th May arrived, per P. M. steamer *Belgie*, on the 23rd June (26 days); and the Canadian mail of the 1st June arrived, per C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 23rd June (22 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The new Spanish Minister to Japan is a passenger on board the *Ernest Simons* from Marseilles for Yokohama.

The light on Norway Island (approaches to Haiphong) is to be exhibited from the 1st July.

A Hakodate telegram of the 13th June to the *Japan Mail* says:—The British sealing schooner *Catherine* (Capt. Fulton) has foundered at sea. Fifteen of the crew have arrived here.

The Central Stores, Limited, share lists closed at Shanghai on the 15th June. The Company has been successfully floated.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 13th June says:—It is somewhat remarkable in the history of this decaying port that at the time of going to press to-day, in the height of the tea season, there is not a single merchant vessel of any kind in harbour. How is the glory departed!

The *China Gazette* says:—It was at first decided that the capital for the railway to be built from Peking to Canton should be furnished exclusively by Chinese, but on the representations of Taotai Hsen, Princes Chün and Kung have agreed that foreigners may also subscribe capital on the same terms as natives.

Mr. Cowen and Mr. Wenyon arrived at Shanghai on the 11th June, having travelled from Canton to Wuchowfu, thence to Kweilin, the capital of Kwangsi, and through the province of Hunan. They accomplished the journey through that anti-foreign province without meeting with any serious trouble.

Colonel Wogack, military attaché to the Russian Legation in Tokyo, having been transferred to China, Colonel De Yanjoul has been appointed in his stead. But as it will be some time before the latter will arrive in Japan, Captain M. Sokovnine has been appointed to the position pending Colonel Yanjoul's arrival. —*Japan Gazette*.

Rear Admiral Tirpitz arrived at Shanghai from Yokohama on the 14th June in the German cruiser *Cormoran*, having travelled to Yokohama in the C. P. R. steamer, to relieve Rear Admiral Hoffmann, who relinquishes his office as Admiral of the German East Asiatic Squadron. Admiral Hoffmann is a passenger for home by the German mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich*.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha held at Tokyo on the 10th June, a resolution was unanimously adopted to increase the capital by 13,200,000 yen, making the total 22,000,000 yen. The Company's new rates on the European line, as accepted by the Conference, are, it is said, to come into force at once, commencing with the *Balmoral*, which is to leave Yokohama on June 23rd.

We (*China Gazette*) are glad to be able to state upon reliable authority that the question of extension of the British Concession at Hankow has been most satisfactorily arranged by the British Consul and the Taotai. We are not yet, however, able to indicate with any certainty the direction of the extension, but we understand that when marked out it will be as large again as the area at present occupied by the British Concession.

The Nanking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes on the 13th June that "the Viceroy has concluded that the easiest way he can handle his contingent of German officers so as to avoid trouble between them and the other soldiers and officers is to transfer them all to Woosung and organise that large fort on entirely new principles. This will allow the Germans to be near a Consul in case of any difficulty and will avoid the possibility of any trouble occurring in this Viceregal city."

At Chungking last year the value of the trade coming under the cognisance of the Foreign Customs amounted to over Tls. 13,000,000, being an increase of nearly 23 per cent. on that of 1894. At Ichang also there was an increase of more than two and a half million taels, so that the increase noted at Chungking apparently does not represent merely a transfer from one Customs-house to the other. At Hankow also there was a considerable increase.

An extraordinary meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, was held on the 22nd inst., for the purpose of effecting certain alterations in the articles of association. The first alteration provided for changes which have been made in the personnel of the staff, and the second for an increase in the directors' fees, as voted at the last half-yearly meeting. As to the former there was no difference of opinion; the latter met with some opposition, but was eventually carried with only two dissentient votes.

The *Nagasaki Shipping List* of the 16th June says:—On Saturday last, just after H.M.S. *Centurion* had come through the Straits of Shimounoseki in company with the *Alacrity*, she grounded upon a sand-bank. After remaining there for some eight hours she was got off, undamaged, and went on her way to Port Hamilton. The *Alacrity*, with Admiral Sir Alexander Buller on board, stood by her all the time, and when the battleship had been successfully floated the Admiral transferred his flag to her. The *Alacrity* then came on here.

Mr. James Joseph Enslie, the British Consul at Kobe, died on the 14th June. For many months past Mr. Enslie had been suffering from an abscess on the liver. He had undergone three or four very painful operations, and it was hoped that surgical skill had at last triumphed and spared the Consul's life for some years yet. Mr. Enslie maintained his usual cheerfulness and buoyant spirits, and his restoration to health was confidently expected by his friends. On the morning of the 14th, however, he broke a blood vessel while coughing, and this hastened the end, which occurred at eleven o'clock the same night.

H. E. Huang, Taotai of Shanghai, has issued the following proclamation in reference to the sinking of the *Onwo*:—Magistrate Shen of Paoshan has reported to me that the families of those who lost their lives in the wreck of the steamers *Onwo*, which was sunk by a collision which took place between that vessel and the steamer *Newchwang* at Pheasant Point, whereby over 200 lives were lost, are petitioning for a Special Grant. Now, according to British law the said families are required to make out statements as to the age, birthplace, and last place of abode of the deceased and send the same to the British Court of Justice. It is also my duty to notify the families of the victims that, in addition to the foregoing particulars, the nature of employment and their probable annual incomes will be required to be sent in to the *yamen* for my perusal. Losses of personal belongings will be required to be furnished separately. All applications must be sent in within two months, after which time no applications will be entertained. Those who attempt forgery will be treated summarily.

THE CHEFOO LAND CASE.

The sensation sought to be evolved out of the Chefoo land case has proved to be very shortlived, as it was bound to be, for seldom before has such an absurdly small question of private rights been elevated to the rank of an international dispute. The comments of the home papers form amusing reading, for, having only a brief telegram to go upon, they have drawn absurdly wrong inferences and treated the subject on much the same footing as they might have done had it been a case of the forcible ejectment of British subjects from land actually occupied by them as the rightful owners. As a matter of fact it is a simple question of the rights of marine lot-holders, as they are termed in Hongkong, over the foreshore in front of their holdings. There is nothing in it out of which an international dispute can be evolved; but the question is an important one as affecting private rights. It has generally been assumed by foreigners that the owners of land in China with a water frontage were possessed of the same rights over the foreshore, as regards accretions or reclamations, as in England would belong to the Crown or the lord of the manor, as the case might be; but whether this assumption rests on any solid foundation of law appears doubtful, law in China being in an inchoate state. The case of the Inch foreshore at Shanghai hardly applies, for that was decided according to English law, and the rules governing accretions to riverine lands on the one hand and reclamations from the sea on the other are not identical. In Hongkong marine lot-holders are not of right entitled to any reclamations that may be made in front of their lots, but if deprived of their water frontage they would have a good cause of action for compensation. The present reclamation works are being carried out under arrangement between the Crown and the lot-holders, and no dispute as to their respective rights has arisen except in the cases of the land held respectively by the trustees of the City Hall and the Sailors' Home. These lots were excluded from the arrangement, the Crown, having regard to the nature of the trusts and the requirements of the institutions, electing to exercise its right to make the reclamation in front of these lots on Government account. If any of the private lot-holders had elected to stand out of the general arrangement made with the other private lot-holders the reclamation in front of their lots would in the same way have become Crown land. In the Chefoo case the respective rights of the Chinese Government and Messrs. FERGUSON and Co. over the foreshore in front of the latter's property have to be decided, and when the decision is announced we will see how far Chinese law differs from British law on this subject. If it can be established that according to Chinese law the owners of land by the sea have an absolute and exclusive right over the foreshore and to all reclamations that may be made thereupon Messrs. FERGUSON and Co.'s claim will no doubt be duly recognised and the recent sale by the Chinese Government of the foreshore to another party will be cancelled.

The *Courrier de Chine*, the new French paper published at Shanghai, devotes one of the articles in its first number to this case, and its statement of the case being somewhat different and in some respects fuller than has yet appeared, we reproduce the substance of it:—"The proprietors whose lands adjoin the lot in dispute are Messrs. CORNABÉ and Co., Messrs. FERGUSON

and Co., and the Chinese Customs. The tide washes these properties and at the ebb leaves a large extent uncovered. Long ago Messrs. CORNABÉ and Co. desired to render themselves independent of the tide by constructing a jetty more than a hundred metres in length; but for this they had to apply to the Taotai of Chefoo, and that official, seeing no objections, consented to sell them all the land adjacent to their property. The Chinese Government, very justly according to our view, holds that all land regularly covered by the tide belongs to the Emperor and that He alone can dispose of it. This view was perfectly admitted by the party interested in the first case. Why, in the case of the adjoining ground and under conditions absolutely identical, should this view be false? The right of pre-emption has been invoked, but not only is this right not recognised in the treaties but neither is it, so far as we know at least, recognised in Chinese law." This, we take it, represents practically the case that will be put forward for the purchasers of the land in dispute. The case resolves itself into one of law, and the sensational and hysterical writing indulged in by our Shanghai contemporaries about the alleged "Russian aggression" at Chefoo is much to be regretted. Possibly the Russian Consul may have interested himself in the matter of the purchase of the land in dispute in a way that may not commend itself to universal approval—of that we know nothing—but a little sharp practice (if there has been any) on the part of the Russian agent would not raise the case to the dignity of a national aggression.

The dispute which has unfortunately arisen, though primarily affecting only individual interests, suggests consideration of the question of marking out the foreign settlements at all the treaty ports. In ports where foreign concessions exist landholders hold their property from the respective Governments to whom the concessions have been made, and not direct from the Chinese Government, and any dispute which may arise is subject to the jurisdiction of civilised tribunals, whereas where there are no concessions, as at Chefoo, any question of disputed ownership that may arise is difficult of adjustment, especially where different nationalities are involved and the assistance of the respective Legations has to be invoked. In the Chefoo Agreement it was provided that "At all ports opened to trade, whether by earlier or later agreement, at which no settlement area has been previously defined, it will be the duty of the British Consul, acting in concert with his colleagues, the Consuls of other Powers, to come to an understanding with the local authorities regarding the definition of the foreign settlement area." This has never been acted upon, and the provision is on the face of it an impracticable one, for there is no authority in the British Government to compel the Consuls of other Powers to act in conjunction with the British Consul in the matter. The other Powers, indeed, seem all disposed to play for their own hand, and we have seen of late Russia, Germany, and France all marking out concessions for themselves without any reference to Great Britain. It would be well for Great Britain also to act for herself where her interests require territorial concessions, for it is evident that the other Powers do not favour a co-operative policy in the matter and that the arrangement which has worked so well in the case of the British and American con-

cessions at Shanghai is not likely to be repeated elsewhere. In some ports property has been acquired by British subjects in scattered lots widely separated from each other, which would possibly render it difficult to arrange for a concession embracing them all on account of the extent of native owned land intervening between the different lots. The object of the provision in the Chefoo Convention, moreover, was not to secure general territorial jurisdiction, either for municipal purposes or for the regulation of titles to land, but simply to define the area within which lekin should not be collected on foreign goods. Wherever possible, however, it seems to us it would be an advantage to have British concessions duly marked out and that the owners of land should hold their titles through the British Government.

FOREIGN SHIPPING AND THE OPIUM TRADE WITH FORMOSA.

A correspondent in South Formosa mentions that no opium is now cleared from the Customs godown at Anping, local requirements being drawn from supplies brought in by junks, and he expresses the opinion that smuggling is winked at by the Customs authorities. This is an extraordinary state of affairs; it must strike everyone as monstrous that foreign steamers should be precluded from participation in a lucrative trade by favouritism shown to Chinese native craft. We can hardly suppose it is a case of corruption, for the Japanese public service is fairly clean handed; neither can there be any difficulty in controlling the junk trade, as that is simply a matter of providing the requisite staff for the purpose. We are driven to the conclusion, therefore, that this winking at smuggling by junks must be part of a settled policy dictated from head quarters. What the object in view may be we do not know. One conjecture that presents itself is that the Japanese Government, wishing to keep its hand free in regard to the importation of opium in Formosa and its possible prohibition, is deliberately allowing the trade to be diverted from steamers to junks so that when the final decision is arrived at the former may have no grievance to urge, the trade having been already lost to them. That, however, does not seem a very feasible explanation, for Japan is quite unfettered in regard to opium and no formal objection could be raised to her prohibiting its importation, whether the trade were at the time in the hands of steamers or junks. If the explanation be that the Customs staff is insufficient to cope with the junk traffic it is not one that cannot be accepted; for the simple remedy of increasing the staff can be at once applied. Japan having taken over the government of the country is bound to administer it with honesty and impartiality, which it cannot be said to do so long as it winks at smuggling by one description of craft while rigorously enforcing the regulations in respect of others. Steamship owners have good cause of complaint and the matter should receive attention at the hands of the British Minister to Japan.

It is now decided that the new road skirting the native city at Shanghai shall commence at the French Bund and shall be 35 feet wide. Three wharves for steamers and junks are also to be built. The work is to commence immediately. The control of the road and wharves will be delegated to native officials and controlled by the Native Public Works Bureau. The cost of the undertaking is estimated at Tls. 110,000.—*China Gazette*.

GERMANY AND LI HUNG-CHANG.

It is quite natural that the Germans should give LI HUNG-CHANG a flattering reception. He has always been friendly to Germany, and a great number of contracts have gone there from Tientsin. His Excellency, we have reason to believe, entertains a great admiration for German military science, which commenced from the capitulation of Sedan. He has never had any serious disagreement with the German Minister, and the course of politics between Peking and Berlin has run fairly smoothly. Moreover, Germany humbled France, a power never loved by China and that rendered itself particularly odious to Li during the hostilities of 1884-5. The French never sought in old times to curry favour with Peking either for the sake of territorial concessions or commercial privileges. Of late years, however, the French Representatives appear to have joined in the undignified scramble for contracts, and the result has certainly been unfortunate for all foreign interests in China. Germany has always had a very commercial mind in her dealings with China and has consistently sought the business advantage of her subjects. The German manufactories have profited not a little in consequence, and the manufacturers who are arranging the *fêtes* with which to receive the Chinese Ambassador are no doubt animated by a lively sense of favours to come. It is very obvious, indeed, what are the reasons prompting this grand reception of the misnamed "Bismarck of China." For our part we hope that when the venerable mandarin visits Great Britain no effort will be made to afford him any extraordinary reception, which he neither merits nor, probably, desires. The usual civilities accorded to special Ambassadors may be conceded to LI HUNG-CHANG, venal old humbug as he is, but it is sincerely to be hoped that no special honour will be done to him, or it will be at once interpreted into a readiness to *kotow* to the most contemptible Government (considering the vastness of the country and the greatness of the population) in the habitable globe.

MILITARY REFORM IN CHINA.

There have of late been rather frequent references to the question of the reorganisation of the Chinese army. The recent war with Japan demonstrated very plainly the necessity for reorganisation, and to the Western mind it seems passing strange that a country after suffering such a severe lesson should take no effective steps to place herself on a footing of equality in military matters with her neighbours. China's desire for reform, however, such as it was, expended itself at the time in an extraordinary activity in the manufacture of old-fashioned jingals, or "two man guns," the disasters sustained by the Chinese in the field being put down to the inferiority of the foreign weapons that had been adopted. As yet the Celestial Empire cannot be said to possess a national army. There are a number of provincial armies, each with its own organisation and its own system of training, and no common arm has been adopted. Here and there a Viceroy more enlightened than the rest may take steps to give the troops under his command the advantage of foreign instruction, but there is no uniformity of purpose in the matter, and the same Viceroy will sometimes engage instructors from different countries trained in different schools. CHANG CHI-TUNG, when Viceroy at Nanking lately,

wanted to get officers from Germany, America, and England, but it was only the first named that acceded to his application. From Germany he got out fifty instructors, but soon after their arrival CHANG was sent back to Wuchang, and his successor LIU KUN-YI would give the foreign instructors few or no troops to drill, and so great was the jealousy entertained towards them that when one of them took a few men on to one of the parade grounds the other day they were attacked and driven off by the Hunan troops, Mr. KRAUSE, the instructor, being rather seriously injured in the melee. Such is military reform in China.

When the last mail left home it was reported at Berlin that a Prussian officer, colonel LIEBERT, had accepted an appointment to reorganise the Chinese army. We are now informed by Reuter that LI HUNG-CHANG has engaged two officers to establish a military school on the German model. The establishment of a military school is a very different thing from the reorganisation of the army, or the bringing into one organisation of a number of separate and independent provincial armies. The former scheme is likely enough to be carried through, but the general reorganisation of the Chinese forces is still, to all appearance, far distant. According to the latest received issue of the *N. C. Daily News*, the Peiyang new German-drilled army, now under the command of YUAN SHIH-KAI, formerly Chinese Resident in Seoul, is being inspected by the newly appointed Assistant Grand Secretary, JUNG LU, who has been specially deputed by the Throne to go to Tientsin for that purpose. If the inspection is favourable it is reported that a brigade from the Peking Field Force will be organised on the same lines under the command of JUNG LU himself. From this it will be seen how limited the scope of the reform in contemplation really is. Instead of placing the armies in all the provinces under one uniform system of foreign instruction it is merely intended to organise a brigade of the Peking Field Force on foreign lines.

THE PRAYA RECLAMATION.

Looking at the appearance of the foreshore at low tide from the new Reclamation to Pottinger Street, no one, we think, can accuse the colonists of impatience. They have waited and hoped, while the weeks and the months and the years rolled by, for the time when dry land would replace the fetid mud which every receding tide leaves to fester under their noses. They were aware that this was inevitable, that it was a part of the price that must be paid for the extension of the sea frontage and for securing deep water along the Bund. Therefore they were resigned to the disagreeable, to the malarious, the insanitary odours that afflicted them, and bore them as an evil of temporary duration, which they had a right to hope would not be unnecessarily prolonged. Has it been so prolonged? This is the question the public are asking, and to many it is an urgent one. The excellence of the work already completed is patent to all, and every credit must be given to the Engineer, Mr. BOWDLER, for the manner in which the Praya wall has been constructed and the roads laid out. But while this is freely conceded, and no murmur is raised as to the cost, the slow rate of progression in the reclamation of the second section is painfully apparent. Possibly the impatience of the public would be less pronounced if the existing condition of the foreshore were

less noisome, less dangerous to health, less inconvenient to small craft. Is there any need for this delay? Does it arise from the necessity for time to admit of the concrete blocks settling, to ensure solidity for the wall? Or is it due to the inability of the Government to procure a sufficient supply of earth for filling in purposes? Surely this is not so difficult a matter! Boats can be had in any number to convey the earth, and there are plenty of spots where it can be procured without injuring any person's interests. The work should, if only from a sanitary point of view, be pushed on with all the rapidity possible. The Sanitary Board, as the custodians of the public health, should see to this. There can be no doubt that every effluent tide leaves exposed a mass of putrescent and decaying matter sufficient to germinate and spread disease in a serious degree. The medical faculty are, we understand, very pronounced on this subject, and consider that something should be done at once to bring the nuisance to the earliest possible termination. A word to the wise is sufficient. We trust Mr. BOWDLER will accept the hint in the way intended, and that he will act upon it promptly with a view to fill in the present malodorous and unsightly swamp with added expedition.

II.

A contributor to the *China Mail* writes:—"Speaking of the delay in the completion of the Praya Reclamation, it must not be forgotten that the Government stopped the work for some time, at the request of several large lot-holders, on the ground that the expense was proving to be too great a strain on the finances of the residents." This is, we believe, altogether fallacious. In May, 1893, a petition for the postponement of the Reclamation, which of course could only refer to those sections on which work had not then been commenced, was presented to the Government, but the lot-holders concerned were not unanimous, and the reply to the petition was a direct and unconditional refusal. It is not to be supposed, therefore, that the "request of several large lot-holders" can have had any influence whatever in delaying the work, as it would have been highly improper for the Government, after giving a public refusal to a public petition, to have quietly acceded to the same prayer when privately preferred. The petitioners never had any idea of advocating dawdling over work that had actually been taken in hand, a course that no one could find a word to say in favour of, as its results are altogether evil. The lot-holders therefore cannot be in any way blamed for the existing condition of affairs.

THE SANITARY BOARD AND THE CHINESE PETITION.

The Sanitary Board on Thursday dealt rather cavalierly with the Chinese petition with reference to the enforcement of the sanitary regulations. The petition was addressed, however, not to the Sanitary Board, but to the Registrar-General, and that official, in his capacity of Protector of Chinese, will no doubt deem it his duty to make further inquiry into the matter, and, if the complaints of the petitioners be well founded, to again bring the matter before the Board. We profess to govern the Chinese with justice and consideration and when they come forward and with due respect represent that they are labouring under a grievance it is the duty of the departments concerned to investigate the alleged grievance in order to ascertain whether it be well founded, and not to dismiss it off-hand because all the rules

of red tape precision are not complied with.

Three complaints are made in the petition, one being that legal cocklofts have been removed and illegal ones allowed to remain, another that sufficient notice is not given when houses are to be invaded by the Whitewash Brigade, and the third that the compulsory reporting of cases of plague in which the patient desires to leave the colony is a hardship. As to the first of these complaints, the Board said nothing, but a minute was made by the Secretary to the effect that specific cases should be given and that in his opinion the statement that legal cocklofts had been removed and illegal ones allowed to remain is untrue. Seeing the unfortunate state the law on this subject has been allowed to get into and that it is not in accordance with common sense, the petitioners may very possibly be incorrect in their opinion as to what cocklofts were legal and illegal, whereas they might have been correct had their statement been that cocklofts unobjectionable from a public health point of view had been removed and that others that were objectionable had been allowed to remain. If it be the case that the law as it stands works injustice it would have been more becoming in the Sanitary Board to have informed the petitioners that they would consider the matter with a view to representing to the Government the desirability of effecting an alteration in the law than to have treated the whole matter with contempt. As to the other complaints, namely, the want of due notice when the cleansing of houses is to be undertaken and the compulsory reporting of cases of plague, the Board resolved to express its concurrence in a minute made upon the petition by the Medical Officer of Health. As to the compulsory reporting of cases of plague that are about to be taken out of the colony Dr. CLARK was sure the Board would "not countenance the removal of plague patients from the colony unless they were first made acquainted with the locality of the premises occupied by such patients so that the infected dwellings may be adequately disinfected." On this point there is no room for difference of opinion, and Dr. CLARK's view will be universally endorsed.

The case with reference to the notice given of cleansing operations is not quite so clear. The petitioners say "it is only in the afternoon the notice is given and the very next morning they [the Whitewash Brigade] come to pull things down and to clean the premises, and not enough time is allowed for the removal of goods, which are damaged by dirt and thus rendered less valuable." According to Dr. CLARK twenty-four hours' notice is always given; the hour for each house cannot be stated with exactness when a gang are working down a row, but a commencement is not made upon a row until twenty-four hours have elapsed after the giving of the notice, so that houses at the bottom of a row have actually more than twenty-four hours' notice. Such we take to be Dr. CLARK's meaning. The question is, then, whether the system in actual working affords the length of notice intended or whether it is a fact, as stated by the petitioners, that in some cases the notice is only given overnight and the cleansing operations commenced next morning. If the complaint made by the petitioners be well founded they have a substantial grievance which the Protector of Chinese should do his best to see redressed. In the case of a dwelling house it may be possible to remove the furniture at a few hours' notice without loss or any material inconvenience,

but in mercantile establishments where goods are stored in quantity and possibly of a perishable nature even twenty-four hours' notice seems too short, unless there be an imperative necessity for expedition on the ground of public health; when of course all other considerations must give way. But no European hong or store would like to have its establishment turned upside down at twenty-four hours' notice, and the matter is one in which our Chinese fellow residents are entitled to be treated with as much consideration as is practically possible. The general cleansing of the city is over for the present, and we hope the provisions of the law rendering it incumbent upon householders to keep their premises clean themselves will render drastic measures unnecessary in the future, but if it unfortunately becomes necessary to set the Whitewash Brigade to work again its operations should be carried on in such a way as to cause as little interference with the business of the colony or with the convenience of the inhabitants as may under the circumstances of the case be possible.

DELAY IN THE PUBLICATION OF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

The promptitude with which Mr. LONGFORD prepared his elaborate and useful report on the trade of Japan during 1895 has justly been made the subject of commendation, but exception has been taken to the time occupied in printing it after its receipt in London. However, slow as the printing may have been, the fact remains that an annual report of exceptional length and requiring an exceptional amount of labour and skill in its preparation has been sent from Japan to London and has been received back in print early in June. Compare this with the dilatoriness shown in the publication of the Hongkong Departmental reports. These have not to make the journey to London and back before they see the light of day, yet here we are almost at the end of June and with one or two exceptions these reports are still unpublished. The Consular reports are now issued much more expeditiously than a few years ago, the Government having recognised the reasonableness of the contention that the earlier they are published the more advantageous will they be to those whose interests may be in any way affected. The example of the home Government with regard to Consular reports might well be followed by the Colonial Government with regard to Departmental reports. If these documents are worth publishing at all they are surely worth publishing within measurable distance of the period to which they refer. The exceptional delay this year is, we opine, due to the fact that a long interval has elapsed without any meeting of the Legislative Council having been held, it being usual to lay the documents on the Council table before printing them in the *Gazette*. That, however, is an antiquated practice which might well be departed from, and we are sure the unofficial members of Council would raise no objections, the tabling being a mere matter of form devoid of any practical utility.

Hu Yuen-mei, the new Governor of Peking, arrived there on the 4th, had an audience of the Emperor on the 6th, and assumed office on the 7th instant. During the audience the Emperor put many questions to him, the most interesting of which were those concerning railways, in which His Majesty apparently shows great interest.—*Mercury*.

A DESEERVING CASE.

The announcement that the Government is unable to make any compassionate allowance to the widow of an interpreter in the employ of the Sanitary Board who died of plague contracted while in the execution of his duty will be received, we think, with regret by all whose attention has been attracted by the circumstances set out in the proceedings of the last meeting of the Sanitary Board. We would commend the case to H. E. the Governor for reconsideration. The widow might reasonably be granted at least an amount equivalent to what the deceased's seven years' service would have counted for in the calculation of his pension had he lived and served long enough to entitle him to retire on a pension. The amount would of course be small, but it would nevertheless be a material assistance to the family in the circumstances in which they are left. In the case of a man who meets his death in the execution of his duty special consideration ought to be shown to those who were dependent upon him.

SUPREME COURT.

18th June.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE MURDER CASE.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General)—Will your Lordship allow me to make an application with regard to the order in which the cases are to be taken. I would ask your Lordship to take the murder case, for which a special jury has been summoned, on Monday next at ten o'clock. If that time will be convenient to your Lordship the special jurors might be discharged until that time.

His Lordship—Very well, Mr. Attorney, let the special jurors be discharged until Monday morning, at ten o'clock. Do you generally have a special jury for murder cases?

The Acting Attorney-General—Yes, my Lord.

His Lordship then fixed the order of one or two other cases and the Acting Attorney-General intimated that the murder case would take up Monday and Tuesday.

ACQUITTED.

Li Hai was charged with stealing a razor stone belonging to a barber in Staunton Street. The following jury tried the case:—Messrs. V. P. Musso, R. M. Mehta, Liao Tze San, J. E. Gomes, C. J. Gonsalves, F. X. V. Ribeiro, and E. Manricio.

The Acting Attorney-General prosecuted. The prisoner was formerly in the employ of the prosecutor and on the 16th August, 1892, he left the shop and afterwards the stone, which was worth \$5, was missed. The accused was not seen again until last month when he was arrested.

The jury found the prisoner not guilty and he was discharged.

ROBBERY.

Li To was charged with receiving a gold bangle well knowing it to have been stolen.

The jury in the first case also tried this case. A woman was robbed at the Cosmopolitan Dock of a gold bangle and the prisoner was afterwards arrested with the stolen property in his possession.

The jury found the prisoner guilty and he was sent to gaol for eight months with hard labour.

ALLEGED THEFT OF \$2,000.

Li I Lum was charged with stealing \$2,000 belonging to Malcampo and Co.

The following gentlemen composed the jury:—Messrs. Lam Hon Won, G. Grimble, T. Meek, E. Mast, J. Lowrie, J. A. Gutierrez, and Leong Shin Kong.

The Acting Attorney-General prosecuted. The prisoner was employed by the prosecutors, who carry on business at 53, Bonham Strand.

On the 5th June last the accused was given four \$500 notes to pay into a Chinese bank in Queen's Road Central. He went into the shop and after placing the paying-in book on the counter he put his hand in his pocket, but withdrew it without taking anything out. He then snatched up the book, and ran away saying he would return later on. He did not return and he told the prosecutors' accountant that he had dropped the notes in the street. The Acting Attorney-General said the jury would doubtless weigh the facts carefully and if there was a doubt of course it was only right that the prisoner should have the benefit of it.

The jury unanimously returned a verdict of not guilty and the prisoner was discharged.

19th June.

ACQUITTED.

Chiu Muk, Chon Ping Nam, and Kwong Yee were charged with bringing into the colony a girl named Heung Sang Kwai for the purpose of pledging her for the purpose of prostitution.

The jury was composed of the following:—Messrs. Schullenbock, J. W. Osborne, L. C. do Rozario, D. K. Griffiths, D. H. Silas, R. H. Heard, J. M. da Rocha.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Holmes) defended.

The Acting Attorney-General, in explaining the facts of the case, said the circumstances were rather peculiar. The defendants, the Crown contended, formed their design in Ko Chow, a town in the south of China, not very far from Hoihow. Some few months ago a Chinaman died in Ko Chow. The first defendant was his wife and the second defendant his son. As was often the custom amongst the Chinese they were very anxious for a proper funeral ceremony to be performed, but unfortunately the family was a poor one, and in order to pay the funeral expenses they had to borrow money from the third defendant. It was then arranged, it was alleged, that the second defendant's wife, who had been married four years, should be brought to Hongkong and sold as a prostitute, the proceeds to go towards paying off the money advanced by the third defendant for the funeral expenses. The girl was brought to this colony and, according to the evidence for the prosecution, an attempt was made to sell her, but the brothel keeper had not sufficient money and before the transaction could be completed the police heard of the affair and arrested the defendants.

Evidence was then called, when the Chinese interpreter employed at the Central Station produced statements made by the prisoners, who had been cautioned in the usual way. Mr. Robinson asked his Lordship's view of the practice. Counsel objected to it on the ground that it was inexpedient; it was in the form of an invitation, but had the authority of a command.

His Lordship said he would not express any opinion on the point, as he would like to have a talk with the Acting Attorney-General first. He did not think there was anything objectionable in the form, but it would have to be very carefully administered. Further he did not wish to express an opinion until he had thought about the subject.

Mr. Robinson contended there was no evidence to show that the defendants formed their design either at Ko Chow or on the way to Hongkong and therefore the charge must fall to the ground.

His Lordship told the jury that they must be satisfied that the defendants at the time of bringing the girl had the intent of pledging her for the purposes of prostitution.

The jury unanimously found a verdict of not guilty and the defendants were discharged.

The Acting Attorney-General intimated that there was another indictment against the accused, but he did not intend to proceed with it. A *nolle prosequi* was accordingly entered.

THE MURDER CASE.

Mr. Robinson said he had not yet had an opportunity of seeing the depositions in the murder case, as they were not finished until that afternoon. He had been honoured by the Court with the defence of the accused and as he also

appeared in two other cases he asked that those two cases should be allowed to remain over.

His Lordship consented and adjourned the Court until ten o'clock on Monday morning.

22nd June.

THE CHARGE OF MURDER.

Tong Foong was charged with the murder of District Watchman Lan Fai, No. 38.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. E. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Holmes) defended by request of the Court.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The following gentlemen were sworn on the special jury:—Messrs. R. M. Moses, P. E. H. Melbye, W. Poate, W. Danby, F. G. Collins, A. J. David, and R. Shewan.

The Acting Attorney-General said the facts of the case were as follows:—A little after ten o'clock on the evening of the 2nd May a man named Lau Tan, a shopman in the Kwong Wo crockery shop, 20, Cross Street, Wanchai, was sitting behind the counter in the shop on the ground floor when four Chinamen entered. One of the men was dressed in a blue jacket and he asked the shopman to show him a pair of clogs. The shopman had no time to comply with the request, as the man in blue and another man caught hold of him and dragged him into the kitchen at the back of the shop. The man in blue pointed a revolver at him and the two men then tied him by his queue to the ladder in the kitchen and kept guard over him for about twenty minutes, while the other two men, whom he could not see, remained in the shop. When the men left the shop the shopman went round the back to No. 18 and on getting into the street saw the men running away. He could not keep up the chase and went to the police station and then to his shop, when he found that \$50 or \$60 had been stolen, some of the money having been taken from out of the till and some out of the money chest, the lid of which had been prised open. It was important to note that of the four men only one was seen with a revolver, and that man was the one in the blue jacket, and when prisoner was arrested he was wearing a blue jacket. When chase was given to the men P.C. Hoggarth was in Wanchai Road, at the north end of Cross Street, and he heard the shouting and saw Chinamen running out of Cross Street and turning down south towards Queen's Road. Hoggarth gave chase and the men, finding they were hotly pursued, turned off into a small lane at the north end of Wanchai Market, a lane called Ching Kai Lane. They then turned down Albany Street into Queen's Road, Hoggarth pursuing the whole time. He saw two men running up Queen's Road and caught hold of the prisoner, who was leading. District Watchman 38 was standing close by and the constable handed the prisoner over into the custody of the watchman and went in pursuit of the other man. Hoggarth had gone about fifty yards when he heard the report of a pistol and as he turned round he saw a flash and heard a second report, when the watchman 38 fell backwards. The constable at once returned in pursuit of the prisoner and followed him down Queen's Road. When opposite No. 3 Police Station the prisoner fired a shot, which took effect upon Chinese constable 223 and injured him in the right thigh. The prisoner then turned out of the Queen's Road and went down a small lane running parallel with Albany Street, where there were some small houses in course of erection. Just as he turned into that lane Hoggarth fired at him with his revolver and apparently the shot took effect, as the constable gained rapidly on the prisoner, who entered an empty house upon the right in the lane, and Hoggarth then fired a second shot. Prisoner ran through the house at the back, but a fence barred his way. As he was trying to get over it the injured Chinese constable saw him and he turned back into a house and staggered over some wood. He was just going out of the doorway into the lane when Hoggarth fired a third shot at him and the prisoner then dropped and crawled into an adjoining house, where he was arrested. There were bullet wounds in his feet and a five-chambered revolver was lying near him. Three of the chambers had been emptied; the

other two were loaded. The prisoner and the Chinese constable were then taken to the hospital, where they were detained many days.

Witnesses were called in support of this statement. The case for the prosecution had not closed when the Court adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 18th June at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided, and there were also present—Dr. Atkinson (Acting Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. H. B. Lethbridge (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

THE DEATH OF INSPECTOR MOFFATT.

The PRESIDENT—Gentlemen, since our last meeting I regret to have to inform you that the death of Inspector Moffatt from bubonic plague has occurred, and with the consent of members I propose to suspend the standing orders in order to give the Medical Officer of Health the opportunity of moving a resolution. The standing orders were suspended.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—I beg to move, sir, that this Board desires to place on record an expression of the regret with which the members have heard of the death of Inspector Galbraith Moffatt and their sympathy with his widow in her bereavement.

The PRESIDENT—I beg to second that.

The resolution was passed in sympathetic silence.

THE CLEANSING OPERATIONS—A CHINESE PETITION.

The following petition was laid on the table:—The merchants of all the hongs in Hongkong and the other residents in the colony present a petition regarding the showing of compassion to the merchant class and the benefiting of the other classes of the community, and pray for a gracious compliance with the wishes of the people that trade may prosper.

Petitioners are merchants in Hongkong and are grateful to the Government for the kind protection which they have hitherto enjoyed. Since the year when the plague was epidemic, the Government has bestowed on its subjects the love of a father for his children. The Sanitary Board was created with the object of removing dirt and thoroughly cleansing the colony. But suddenly in the spring of this year the plague reappeared. Although the law permitted some of those who were attacked by the disease to return to their native country for medical treatment, they would have had to report themselves for inspection, and being afraid of the inconvenience which would be caused by detention, none have ventured to report, and people have remained in a place which has proved unhealthy, and have suffered with their lives. By order of the Sanitary Board, for the purpose of cleanliness and ventilation, all shops have had to be whitewashed and cocklofts pulled down. This measure is without doubt most important for the protection of the people and is respectfully obeyed by the petitioners, and no one would venture to set the order at defiance. But time should be allowed to enable them to remove their goods and save them from injury. The excellence of the measure and the praiseworthiness of the intention would then be evident. But the workmen employed have not been able to fulfil the good intention of the Government nor to comprehend natural feelings on the subject. It is only in the afternoon the notice is given and the very next morning they come to pull things down and to clean the premises and not enough time is allowed for the removal of goods, which are damaged by dirt, and thus rendered less valuable. In vain do all sigh on perceiving how each new law originates a new abuse, to the grave inconvenience of the mercantile class. But what is most inexplicable is that legal cocklofts in certain shops have been pulled down without regard for any one, while some which are illegal are permitted to remain. [Specific cases should be given. I am of opinion this is untrue.—H. MCCALLUM.] Petitioners consider that such proceedings are

really so unreasonable as to prevent the fulfilment of the good purpose of the Sanitary Board to protect the people. They are therefore compelled to unite in respectfully approaching your Honour and humbly requesting that the wishes of the people may meet with a favourable reception, and they pray that this petition may be forwarded to his Excellency the Governor that he may order that a reasonable time shall be allowed for the removal (of illegal structures) and for cleansing (of houses) and that persons suffering from any disease of whatever description may be permitted to return to their country for medical treatment. Should their prayer be granted, the merchants and the whole community of Hongkong will be infinitely grateful for the great favour of the Government.

To the Hon. the Registrar-General.
(Here follow 419 chops.)

The following minutes were appended:—

The Medical Officer of Health—As the time occupied in cleansing any one house or row of houses depended entirely upon its sanitary condition, it was found quite impossible to say at what particular hour a house some forty or fifty yards further down would be reached by the gang. Hence it was not possible to give definite notice at an earlier date than was done. A vague notice that the gang would deal with a certain house "some time this week" or "some time next week" would have been worse than useless to the tenants, and therefore the twenty-four hours' notice which they received was to their advantage, as they were thus made aware of the exact hour at which they might expect the gang. The Board will not, I am sure, countenance the removal of plague patients from the colony, unless they are first made acquainted with the locality of the premises occupied by such patients, so that the infected dwellings may be adequately disinfected.

The President—I wonder when the persons who are so good at proclaiming a grumble are going to adopt a reasonable course and state definitely the dates and premises referred to.

The PRESIDENT—I propose to reply to this that the Board concur in the opinion expressed by the Medical Officer of Health in his minute.

The ACTING COLONIAL SURGEON seconded.
Carried.

PLAGUE AT AMOY.

A letter was submitted from the British Consulate at Amoy, dated 6th June, enclosing the following extract from the Port Doctor's report:—

"I hear the plague has been keeping on about the same during the past week. It is not easy to get thoroughly reliable information as to the number of deaths; but from all I can find out I think they number from 15 to 20 per diem in the city."

CHOLERA AT SINGAPORE.

A statement by the Colonial Secretary of Singapore was submitted showing that cholera was on the decrease at that port.

THE GOVERNMENT VETERINARY SURGEON.

Intimation was made that Mr. C. V. Ladds, Government Veterinary Surgeon, had been granted extension of leave for six months—from 17th June—with half salary.

A CASE FOR PRACTICAL HELP.

The following letter was received from the Rev. G. Reusch:—

Basel Mission House.
Hongkong, 18th May, 1896.

Dear Sir,—The widow of the late Sham Tin-yau, interpreter to the Sanitary Board at Yaumati, has asked me to receive for her from the Government the salary due to her deceased husband. She also asked me to put her case before the Government with a view to receive if possible from the Government a gratuity in addition to the salary due to her husband. Sham Tin-yau died of plague on the 2nd May, after being in the service of the Government for about seven years. He caught the disease in the execution of his duty and leaves now a widow with three children without any means of support. I am well acquainted with the family and can testify that the widow really deserves some help from the Government.—I have, &c.,

G. REUSCH.

The Secretary, Sanitary Board.

The following minutes were attached:—

Mr. N. J. Ede—As the Secretary is of opinion that the man caught the plague in the execution of his duty, I am in favour of recommending the case to the liberality of His Excellency.

The Medical Officer of Health—Have we any

evidence whatever that the man died of plague? If so, I am in favour of recommending to H.E. the Governor the desirability of granting to the widow a compassionate allowance.

The Acting Colonial Surgeon—Where did the man die?

The Captain Superintendent of Police—I concur with Secretary's suggestion.

The Director of Public Works—This is not a matter for the Board to deal with. The application should have been addressed to the Colonial Secretary, who, I presume, would take the necessary steps to enquire into the matter. Please send these papers to the Colonial Secretary.

A subsequent letter was received from Colonial Secretary intimating that His Excellency regretted that after careful consideration of the circumstances he was unable to grant a gratuity.

Mr. MACCALLUM stated that he proposed to get up a subscription among the members of the staff for this poor woman.

THE WIDTH OF BRIDGES.

Correspondence was submitted relating to the width of passage ways or bridges between cook houses, and tenements in Queen's Road and Arsenal Street. The point at issue was whether the Board should order a reduction in the width of those bridges to the regulation width of 3 ft. 6 in. or whether the bridges should be allowed to remain until an alteration is required in the property.

It was resolved not to object to the maintenance of the existing bridges so long as they did not obstruct more than one-third of a yard.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The Secretary reported that the death rate per 1,000 per annum for the week ended 6th June was 27.4 as compared with 18.7 in the corresponding week of last year. For the week ended 13th June the death rate was 17.7 as compared with 19.1 in the corresponding week last year. During the latter week there were only 25 deaths from plague as against 48 in the previous week and 81 a fortnight ago.

VICTORIA AND YAUMATI CLEANSED.

A report was read from the Medical Officer of Health on the work done by the cleansing gang since the last meeting of the Board. The whole of the houses in Yaumati had been cleansed during the past fortnight, and also nineteen houses in the village of Taikoksu; in addition fifty-six houses, comprising 144 floors, were cleansed in the city. This completed the cleansing of Chinese houses in Victoria. The visiting gangs had during the past fortnight inspected 5,547 houses, comprising 14,858 floors.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until next Thursday week.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY PASSENGERS IN EXCESS.

At the Police Court on the 19th June, before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Captain Schoel, of the German steamship *Petrarch*, was summoned for attempting to leave the waters of the colony with 130 passengers in excess of the number allowed by his clearance, contrary to section 6 of Ordinance 26 of 1891.

Mr. C. Ewens appeared for the defence.

F. de Cruz, sixth clerk in the Harbour Master's office, said that on the 27th May last the defendant, of the German steamship *Petrarch*, cleared the ship with twelve passengers. She had no passenger certificate. The ship had been cleared eight or nine times this year in Hongkong.

P. C. Ashmore said—At 1.45 a.m. on the 28th May I boarded the steamship *Petrarch* with Acting Sergeant 404. She was moored at the north side of the fairway. I saw the captain, who was asleep aft. I woke him up and said I wanted to count the passengers. I looked down the fore hold and saw he had more than twelve passengers on board. Some of the passengers came up and I examined some of the tickets, of which there were two kinds; one was a long slip and the other was a short white ticket. I did not count the passengers, but went to the Water Police Station, and Inspector Hanson returned with me. At 3 a.m. we counted the passengers in the presence of the defendant. There were on board 124 adults, ten boys, and eight children in arms, a total of 142. We put all the passengers on the

saloon deck and then we counted the crew forward. The vessel was bound for Saigon and was getting under weigh when I first went on board; she was then weighing the port anchor. On boarding at three o'clock the port anchor was at the bows and the starboard anchor was down.

Inspector Hanson said—About three a.m. on the 28th May last I boarded the German steamship *Petrarch* in company with the last witness and saw the captain. I told him he had too many passengers and I wanted to count them. He said the compradore told him there were sixty on board, but he himself did not know how many there were. I got all the passengers up out of No. 2 hold and made them walk in single file aft while I counted them in the presence of the defendant. I counted 124 adults, ten lads, whose ages varied from ten to fifteen, and eight children in arms. The steamer had got steam up; the port anchor was up and the starboard anchor down. She was at the northern part of the fairway, about opposite the Government Civil Hospital. The defendant was impatient to get away and asked me what he should do. I told him that in the common cause of humanity he should not go to sea with those passengers, but that it was not my place to advise him. I do not know whether the passengers were landed. There were twelve white tickets and the remainder were different. The compradore told me his name was Nam Hoi.

Chun Kai Ming, said—I am second clerk at the Magistracy and Court translator. The ticket produced was issued by the Kwong Yuen shop on the lucky day of the fourth moon. The chop bears the words, "Hongkong, Wo Kee Company, correspondence chop."

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution.

Mr. Ewens said the first objection that would be made was that section 6 of Ordinance 26 of 1891 could not be said to apply to the *Petrarch* at all, because it referred to a master of any ship carrying over twelve passengers, and the evidence in this case was that the ship had no certificate and therefore could not carry more than twelve passengers. The whole Ordinance distinguished between ships carrying more than twelve passengers and ships not carrying more. It was a mistake no doubt in the Ordinance, but prosecutions could only be commenced against ships carrying more than twelve passengers. Unless the defendant was a master of a ship carrying more than twelve passengers the whole thing fell to the ground. The mistake in the Ordinance could not be got over. The second point he raised was on the question of leaving or attempting to leave. Of course, under the Ordinance as originally drawn prosecutions could not be instituted at all unless the ship had actually left. This was nonsense, and so an amending Ordinance was passed making it an offence to leave or attempt to leave with an excess of passengers. What was an attempt to leave? An attempt to leave was very little different from actually leaving; but it must be proved that the vessel was crossing or facing her head in such a position that she must be actually attempting to leave. Counsel then quoted a case in support of his contention. A man was charged with attempting to shoot a person. The prisoner had his finger on the trigger; but it was held that he could not be convicted of attempting to shoot. What counsel submitted was that a man could not be convicted of attempting to leave the waters of the colony unless he was actually in motion. On the two points he had mentioned the case for the prosecution must fail. If his Worship was against him on those points counsel intended to call evidence as to the actual facts of the case. There was no doubt of an intention on the part of the compradore to effect a little swindle on his own account. The Wo Kee firm had issued twelve tickets, which were white tickets of the ordinary form. But the compradore had access to the correspondence chop, which was looked upon as being very little different from the ordinary chop. Having access to the chop he made use of it to sell outside tickets. When the captain was informed that several coolies in excess of the proper number were boarding the steamer he told the second officer to send for the compradore, but the compradore could not be found. The captain went to sleep and waited for the compradore and he had no

intention to leave with an excess of passengers. They kept up the port anchor for another purpose and not for the purpose of going with all the passengers on board. When the police boarded the steamer the comprador returned.

Witnesses were then called for the defence.

Solomon Uecker, said—I am chief officer on board the *Petrarch*. I remember passengers coming on board on the night of the 27th May. The captain was not on board then and when he came on board I told him there were more than twelve passengers. The captain told me to send for the comprador, who was on shore. I asked the captain when we should start and he said as soon as the comprador returned. I did not send the coolies ashore because they could not understand me. I had no boats to send them ashore, and waited for the comprador, who came on board after the police came; I do not know how long after. I started to get the port anchor up before the police came on board; I started to get it up about one o'clock. I always get up one anchor two hours before the ship leaves, in order to have less trouble. I do not know whether the steamer attempted to leave the colony. We left at eight o'clock in the morning with only twelve passengers. The remainder had been sent ashore.

Tong Shen Hing, clerk to the Wo Kee Company, said—Chow Tak Won is the manager of the Company and he is now in Canton; he went there in April last and returned on the 9th June and went back on the 15th inst. The Wo Kee were charterers of the *Petrarch*, and I was in charge. The Company issued twelve passenger tickets for the *Petrarch*. The slips produced are applications for passenger tickets, but no tickets have been issued on them. The people holding them must have gone on the *Petrarch* by mistake. I only issued two of them; these were in addition to the twelve tickets, but they were not for the *Petrarch*.

His Worship held that the defendant did attempt to leave with the excess of passengers. Two anchors had been down and one of them had been lifted. That showed an intention to leave; the two anchors could not be lifted at once. There were really 122 passengers in excess and the defendant would be fined \$3 on each of them and a further fine of \$100, or \$466 altogether.

Mr. Ewens announced his intention to appeal on a point of law; he did not dispute the fact.

There was also a summons charging the Wo Kee Company as consignees with unlawfully deriving profit from the tickets, and this summons was adjourned pending the appeal.

LEGAL AND ILLEGAL COCKLOFTS.

MORE TROUBLE.

At the Police Court on the 19th June, before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, the two masters of 166, Queen's Road, were charged with maintaining a cockloft on premises where the room was divided into separate compartments.

Mr. Reece said he appeared for the defendants and the charge was brought under section 7, sub-section 1, of Ordinance 15 of 1894. Counsel then proceeded—I have seen the place myself and Mr. Danby has seen it, and I admit that technically there was an offence; but in mitigation I should like to say a word or two. It seems that on the 11th April last the cockloft on the ground floor of these premises, 166, Queen's Road Central, was removed by the whitewash brigade, or by the Sanitary Inspectors, and after that no complaint was made. It was assumed by the owners of the shop that the place then was in a legal state, and there was no complaint made or any objection made to the state in which it was left. It was left with some shelves about six or eight feet from the back of the shop. There was some sort of erection—I do not know whether it was strictly a cockloft—but there was some sort of storey erected at the back part of the room. No notice was ever given to my clients that this was illegal; no notice was given to them to remove it, and no reasonable notice was given, as is required by the Ordinance, of any intention to inspect the premises; but on the 10th June an Inspector went there without giving reasonable notice of his intention. Section 11 of Ordinance 15 of 1894 states

"The Board shall have power by its officers to enter and inspect upon reasonable notice."

His Worship—You say that the Board has to send notice that the Inspector is to come.

Mr. Reece—The law says so; "reasonable notice." The Inspector came without notice and instead of requiring the owners to remove the partitions, which of course is the gist of the matter, a summons was immediately issued and they were brought up at the Police Court on the 11th June, when the case was remanded. The owners took steps to get Mr. Danby to look at the premises, and Mr. Danby advised them to remove the shelves which were at the back of the shop—the shelves which formed the partitions which are said to be illegal. I admit the cockloft was illegal, when the shelves were there, but they have been removed, and they were removed as soon as the owners knew they were illegal. Mr. Danby will tell your Worship, if necessary, that there is nothing illegal on the premises at this moment. They have applied for leave to erect a cockloft for storage purposes only, and if your Worship looks at the plan you will see the exact place. The only offence charged against the defendants was having a cockloft, or something in the nature of a cockloft, in a room partitioned off into separate compartments—the compartments consisting of shelves which have now been removed; and the defendants have applied for permission to erect a cockloft in accordance with the law and in accordance with the regulations of the Sanitary Board. I ask your Worship not to inflict a penalty, or, if you do, to inflict only a nominal penalty.

His Worship said he would hear some of the evidence.

John Reidie, Sanitary Inspector, said—At 4 p.m. on the 10th inst. I visited the ground floor of 166, Queen's Road Central, with the written permission of the Sanitary Board, under by-law 10 made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894. I saw a cockloft on the ground floor, 7 ft. 2 in. by 14 feet, being maintained in a room which was partitioned off in compartments. The cockloft was illegal, because it did not have a space of 9 ft. 2 in. below and 6 ft. 4 in. above. I supervised the removal of the cockloft on the 10th or 11th April last, whilst the place was being cleansed. I told him at the time that he would not be allowed to have it. A new cockloft has since been erected.

By Mr. Reece—The old cockloft extended 10 or 11 feet over the room. There were partitions in the room then. I do not know when the new cockloft was erected. I saw it first on the 10th June and issued the summons on the 11th. I did not give defendant any notice to abate the nuisance. I saw to-day that the partitions had been removed.

Mr. Reece—Do you know that the owners have sent in an application to the Sanitary Board for leave to erect a cockloft in accordance with the plan?

Witness—Yes. No permission is necessary.

Mr. Reece—I think you will find it is necessary under Notification 372. Does it not say, "No permission will be granted for their continuance except for storage purposes only"?

Witness—Yes; "where such room is divided off into separate compartments and then only." There are no partitions shown on the plan and so no permission is necessary to erect and maintain the cockloft.

Mr. Reece—It is not strictly a cockloft.

Witness—You admitted it was some time ago. I say it is. The parts extend over the whole length of the floor and are made to lift up.

Mr. Reece, in further addressing the Magistrate, said there was nothing to show that the defendants were aware of the illegality of the cockloft; it was much smaller than the old one, and defendants did not intend to infringe the law in any way. There was nothing illegal on the premises now.

His Worship—I cannot see that there is any necessity to give notice of an inspector's intention to visit a place. This place was illegal and it would be very much better if, instead of coming here and pleading complete ignorance, they had consulted Mr. Danby or an Inspector in the first place. I shall inflict the usual fine—\$10.

THE OBSTRUCTION OF BACK-YARDS.

ANOTHER AMENDING ORDINANCE REQUIRED.

At the Magistracy on Saturday, before Hon. Commander Hastings, Choy Chan, as executor of Choy Leong Shai (deceased), was charged with committing a breach of by-law No. 5, made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, in not keeping the backyards of Nos. 26 and 28, Gage Street, clear of obstruction.

Dr. Clark appeared for the Sanitary Board, and Mr. V. H. Deacon appeared for Choy Chan.

John Readdie, Inspector of Nuisances, spoke to visiting the houses recently and to noticing obstructions in the backyards. The obstruction at 26, Gage Street, was a tile shed and the area of the obstruction was 9 feet 4 inches. The obstruction at 28, Gage Street, extended to 11 feet 4 inches. In cross-examination by Mr. Deacon, he admitted that 3 feet 6 inches as allowed by the Ordinance had to come off at No. 26, which left 5 feet 10 inches, and that 3 feet 6 inches had also to come off the obstruction at No. 28, which left 7 feet 10 inches obstruction.

Mr. Deacon's defence was that the houses had been owned by Choy Chan since 26th August, 1886, when he purchased them for \$12,000. These so-called obstructions existed at that date, and they had never been altered, added to, or amended from that date down to the present. He contended that by-law No. 5 and the Ordinance No. 15 of 1894, under which the by-law was made, not being retrospective in their operations, could not apply to houses which were not altered since the Ordinance and by-laws were passed. Mr. Deacon quoted Devarris on Statutes, Maxell on Statutes, and the *Law Times* Report, and was proceeding with further authorities when the Magistrate said that he must succeed if he proved that the obstructions were in existence before the Ordinance or the by-laws were passed, and had not been altered.

Mr. Deacon then called evidence as to the facts.

Mr. R. K. Leigh said he visited the premises recently and had made a plan of them, which was put in evidence. He described the nature of the alleged obstructions.

See To Leong said he had been rent collector to Choy Chan, the defendant, for upwards of twenty years. He had known 26 and 28, Gage Street ever since they were purchased by the defendant in 1886. The alleged obstructions existed when the property was purchased, and they had never been altered or added to since that time. When the houses were first purchased by Choy Leong Shai they were numbered 24 and 26, but about two years ago the numbers were altered and they were now 26 and 28.

Mr. R. C. Vania said he was a merchant and had resided in 26, Gage Street, since 1883. He knew the erection over the yard at the back of the house. It was there in 1883, and had remained there ever since in the same state without alteration.

Mr. Deacon then put in the title deeds of the property, and submitted it was clearly shown that these houses could not come under the operations of the by-law in question, inasmuch as he had proved that the alleged obstructions existed in 1886 when the property was purchased, and had never been altered or added to since that day, and that the Ordinance and by-laws not being retrospective in their operation his Worship must feel himself constrained to dismiss the summons.

Dr. Clark submitted, in reply, that the by-law did have a retrospective operation, and did affect the houses in question.

His Worship said he had made up his mind on this point and dismissed the charge.

The writer of "Notes by the Way" in the *Japan Gazette* says:—I wonder if any enquiry is to be made into the grievances alleged or real of which the men on the *Centurion* complain? The discontent is very keen, and in fairness to both officers and men some sort of investigation ought to be held to discover the truth. It should be said of the *Centurion*, as is now said of the *Edgar*, "The ship is a paradise." Why not? She is splendidly equipped, and is in every respect a vessel to be proud of.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

On the 22nd June an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, was held at the offices, 14, Praya Central. Mr. J. Kramer presided, and there were also present—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Messrs. St. C. Michaelson, J. H. Lewis, N. A. Siebs, J. S. Van Buren, G. B. Dodwell (Directors), D. Gillies (General Manager), T. I. Rose (Secretary), V. H. Deacon (Solicitor), Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. T. Arnold, Hart Buck, W. J. Gresson, C. L. Gorham, F. Henderson, H. W. Hogg, J. J. Leiria, R. Mitchell, W. Parfitt, J. F. Reece, W. J. Saunders, C. S. Sharp, F. Dodwell, F. Maitland, D. Warren Smith, Gershom Stewart, and H. Wicking.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, at our ordinary half yearly meeting in August, 1895, we informed you that certain changes in the personnel of our staff seemed desirable and I have pleasure in informing you that these changes have proved to work satisfactorily. We have, however, found it necessary to make certain slight technical alterations in our articles of association, and as an extraordinary general meeting had to be convened to give effect to the resolution of the shareholders at the half yearly meeting held in February last, respecting the increase to the fees of the directors, we have taken the opportunity of bringing forward the various matters at one time, and I have now to propose the following resolution:—

That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following:—

- (a) Paragraph 10 of Article 2, which now reads as follows:—"Auditors Secretary and Manager mean those respective Officers from time to time of the Company" and the marginal note of the same paragraph shall be cancelled, and in lieu thereof the following marginal note and paragraph shall be inserted that is to say

"Chief Manager	"Chief Manager
"Secretary	"Secretary, and
"and Auditors"	"Auditors respectively mean the persons for the time being performing the duties of these respective officers."

- (b) In article 69 the words "One thousand dollars" shall be eliminated and there shall be substituted therefor the words "two thousand dollars."

- (c) In article 70 the words "Chief Manager" shall be substituted for the word "Manager."

- (d) In article 72 and in the marginal note thereof the word "Manager" where it occurs shall be eliminated and the words "Chief Manager" shall be substituted therefor.

- (e) At the end of articles 83 and 87 there shall be added the words "or Chief Manager."

Mr. SHARP—Sir, I beg to second the resolution which you have just read. I think that in regard to the appointment of the Chief Manager—as that seems to be the outcome of your recent experience in the management of the Company and that this appointment seems to have been found desirable for the better welfare of the Company—shareholders will be found to readily agree to this proposal. With regard to the matter of directors' fees, it is now some considerable time since this matter was first mooted and there has been ample opportunity in the interval that has passed to consider the matter in all its bearings. We have no doubt thrashed the matter out in the course of conversation and we have had the benefit of seeing the various letters which have appeared in the public prints. Personally I do not think it is such a dreadful proposal as some of the writers would have us believe. Considering the time that the directors have devoted to the business of the Company and the interest they have taken in it I do not think that the proposed increase is in any way preposterous in the way of remunera-

tion. I am told that when the present articles of association came into force—about 1869, I believe—the work of the directors was very small compared with what it is now, and there can be no doubt that they have laboured very much and, I think, not unhappily for the interests of shareholders—(applause)—as the work has been multiplied very considerably. In illustration of this I find on looking through the accounts that the gross earnings of the Company for the twelve months ending June, 1869, were rather under \$300,000, and that has been going on and multiplying and increasing until the gross total for last year ending December was close on \$2,350,000. (Applause.) Personally I for one would not be so niggardly disposed as to oppose an increased remuneration for the increased work and increased responsibility implied by these figures, especially if the Company goes on producing accounts in any degree as good as we have seen in times gone past. I have therefore much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Mr. J. F. REECE—Mr. Chairman and Directors and shareholders of this Company, I will not say anything about the first part of this resolution, that is to say, in respect to the appointment of Chief Manager, except that I am under the impression—I may be right or I may be wrong—that Mr. Gillies is the Chief Manager appointed, and if so we heartily concur in his appointment. (Applause.) We cannot possibly have a better manager than Mr. Gillies. (Applause.) But, gentlemen, the second part of the resolution, that respecting the directors' fees, is one, I think, which requires some consideration. All of us shareholders have the greatest possible confidence in our directors. They are, without exception I should say, one of the best bodies of business men that can be collected in this colony, and they have most certainly conducted the affairs of this Company, for the past two or three years, at any rate, in a most excellent manner; and, gentlemen, I am quite of opinion that the directors should have adequate remuneration, but I do not think that is quite the point now. The point is whether they have gone the right way about it. There is a right way and also a wrong way of doing a thing, and in this particular instance I think they have gone about it in the wrong way. They convened the ordinary yearly meeting of the Company by a notice dated 17th February; that meeting was convened for the 23rd February.

The CHAIRMAN—3rd February; it was convened on the 3rd February.

Mr. REECE—I may be mistaken.

The CHAIRMAN—You are—3rd February for the 24th.

Mr. REECE—That may be so; yes, sir, if you will allow me.

Mr. G. B. DODWELL—4th February.

Mr. REECE—On the 4th February, I think, if Mr. Dodwell will allow me to say, that the notice which appeared in the papers dated 4th February gave notice of the ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders to be held on Monday, the 24th February, at noon. That meeting was never held.

The CHAIRMAN—The adjourned one was.

Mr. REECE—The meeting was held on the 25th, but was adjourned and the notice for the meeting on the 25th February was dated 17th February.

The CHAIRMAN—That was by a mistake. That meeting had only been postponed owing to the absence of the Chairman.

Mr. REECE—I only wish to state—

The CHAIRMAN—The meeting was postponed for one or two days, simply owing to the absence of the Chairman.

Mr. REECE—Very likely.

The CHAIRMAN—He said he would like to take part in the meeting, which he did.

Mr. REECE—That is not a point on which I lay very much stress. It is no doubt a technical objection, but I think it is a good objection. The meeting was not convened until the 17th February, the notice was not published until the 17th February, and our articles of association say that ten days' notice shall be given, and that notice was only a seven days' notice.

The CHAIRMAN—That was not so. The subsequent meeting was simply postponed from the 24th to the 25th. It was simply a postponement.

Mr. REECE—I do not find anything at all in the articles about a postponement of a meeting. There may be something about an adjournment; if the meeting is held it may be adjourned. I do not think the articles of association provide for a postponement; but I think there can be no doubt, and Mr. Deacon will bear me out, that the meeting convened for the 25th February was by notice of the 17th February and no other notice, but I do not lay much stress upon that. I do lay stress upon this, that it did not specify the objects and business of the meeting so as to include a proposal for an increase in the directors' fees. It was the ordinary notice for an ordinary meeting, and for the ordinary business of receiving the report of the directors and the statement of accounts for 1895. The report and accounts were in the usual form and it is perfectly clear that the only business that could be properly transacted at that meeting was the adoption of the report of the directors and the passing of the statement of accounts. That was done—and something else. What was done was this. A surprise vote was passed, that the directors' fees should be increased. Now that so-called resolution, which was moved by Mr. Stokes and seconded by Mr. Mody, was in the following terms—"That the fees of the directors be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 each per annum, and that the sum of \$3,500 be hereby voted to the Board as an addition to their fees for the past half year, and that the directors be hereby requested to take steps for the altering of the articles of association to put into effect the first part of the resolution." Now I have not the slightest hesitation in saying—I have considered the matter carefully—that that so-called resolution was *ultra vires* the Company. The shareholders had no power whatever to pass such a resolution at that time and in that manner. The articles of association are perfectly clear. Article 69 says—"The directors may, with the sanction of the shareholders, in each year, set aside a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars each, as remuneration for the directors, to be divided amongst them in such manner as the board shall determine."

Mr. SHARP—I rise to a point of order. We are not called here to discuss what took place at a previous meeting; we are called to discuss the business of this meeting.

Mr. REECE—I submit I am in order, for this reason. It seems to me that the proposed alteration in the articles of association with respect to the increase in the directors' fees is of consequence, and I think you yourself said so in your speech; it is of consequence to the so-called resolution passed at the yearly meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—It was no resolution; it was an expression of opinion. It was the desire of the shareholders to increase the directors' fees from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The proposal was made at that meeting and we are assembled here to alter the articles of association.

Mr. REECE—Then I may take it it is admitted by the directors that it was not a resolution.

Mr. DEACON—It was not intended to be.

Mr. REECE—It only amounted, as the Chairman said, to an expression of opinion, that it would be advisable and expedient in the interest of the Company to raise the directors' fees.

The CHAIRMAN—This meeting is called to carry out that expression of opinion.

Mr. REECE—Yes, there was in that so-called resolution a clause to the effect that the directors should pay to themselves the sum of three thousand—

The CHAIRMAN—Excuse me, we have nothing to do with that vote to-day; the question is not before us.

Mr. REECE—Mr. Chairman, I think it is very important in this way, that if the directors, as I say, have erroneously paid to themselves a remuneration at double the rate which they have contracted to accept by these articles of association, then they should refund all they have been paid.

The CHAIRMAN—This question is not before the meeting.

Mr. REECE—I submit it is.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Reece, it is not. This question can be brought forward at the next half yearly meeting in August—

Mr. REECE—Mr. Chairman—

The CHAIRMAN—Allow me to speak—when the accounts are placed again before the shareholders. This is not the place to discuss the matter; it is not before the meeting.

Mr. REECE—I submit to you, Mr. Chairman, that what I am saying now is a very good reason for not supporting the resolution with respect to the increased remuneration of the directors which has been moved and seconded. Here in the articles of association is a contract—a contract between the directors and the shareholders of the Company, a contract which is equivalent to a covenant under seal, and the contract is that the directors shall not, while that contract exists, be paid more than \$7,000.

The CHAIRMAN—You cannot speak on that at all, because the question is not before us here—not this time. Really, I cannot listen to you any longer on that point.

Mr. REECE—Here is the contract.

The CHAIRMAN—If you speak on this \$3,500 taken by the directors I cannot listen to you.

Mr. REECE—What I ask the shareholders to do now is this: to oppose that resolution to increase the directors' fees until the directors have repaid to the Company all that I say they have erroneously paid to themselves under an invalid vote.

The CHAIRMAN—Will you bring forward any amendment?

Mr. REECE—Certainly I will, and I should like to give my reasons.

Mr. ARNOLD—I beg to move that the resolution be now put to the meeting.

Mr. REECE—I have an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN—If there is an amendment I must put it.

Mr. REECE—I have an amendment and I think it must be put.

The CHAIRMAN—Will you give it to me in writing?

Mr. REECE—I will give it to you in writing, only having regard to what an eminent colonist—an eminent member of the community—told me the other day, that he did not see how in conscience the directors could retain this money—

The CHAIRMAN—You are touching that question again.

Mr. REECE—My reply was that the Board of Directors had no power—

The CHAIRMAN—I must ask you to sit down if you continue to talk about that question, Mr. Reece.

Mr. REECE—I submit it has a great deal to do with the matter. I am giving my reasons for the amendment which I propose, and the amendment is this—"That Article sixty-nine do stand and that it be not altered as proposed or at all." I will hand the amendment in writing to the Chairman. That is the amendment I propose and I was giving my reasons when I was interrupted.

The CHAIRMAN read the amendment to the meeting and said—Have you got a seconder?

Mr. REECE—Will anyone second that amendment?

Mr. WAREES SMITH rose to second when,

Mr. ARNOLD said—What is article 69.

Mr. DEACON read the article.

Mr. REECE—I was giving my reasons for moving the amendment when the Chairman stopped me. The question is whether I have a good reason for moving that amendment. The reason I have given is this, that the directors have illegally, improperly, erroneously—perfectly honestly no doubt, but perfectly erroneously—paid themselves at double the rate the contract allows them to.

The CHAIRMAN—That will do. Have you got a seconder to your amendment?

Mr. WAREES SMITH—I beg to second that, Mr. Chairman. At the same time I disavow any desire to depreciate either the ability or the industry of the directors. While on my feet I should like to mention that when the circular calling this meeting reached Shanghai the shareholders there had a consultation and they decided to oppose this increase of the remuneration to the directors. I was asked to assist them in bringing the matter forward. I waited for some time, but as those of us who have lived there know, the Shanghai people are a modest community—(laughter)—and I was therefore not surprised to learn that they decided afterwards to content themselves by sending a letter to the directors protesting against the proposed doubling of the directors' fees. Shanghai men

are all men of business and I think their views are worthy of consideration. I think it would be better if we more frequently followed their example. Not only is the Shanghai community a modest community, but the directors there are modest directors, and—well, I do not wish to cast any reflection on the Hongkong directors. I beg to second the amendment.

The amendment was put to the meeting and the Chairman announced that it was "decidedly lost."

The resolution was then put and carried, the voters against it being the mover and seconder of the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you in the name of myself and my co-directors for your kind vote of confidence. I thank you very much for your attendance. There will be a meeting to confirm this resolution on the 13th July. That is all the business, gentlemen.

THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

The following is the fourteenth annual report of the Board of Directors of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited, presented to the shareholders at the fifteenth ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the Company, London, on the 28th May—

The Board of Directors submit herewith to the shareholders their report and statement of accounts for the year 1895.

The earnings of the fleet, though not so large as in 1894, have again proved satisfactory. The war between China and Japan was only brought to a conclusion towards the end of April; but although it served to disorganize the trade of the country to a considerable extent, its effects upon the coasting and river traffic have proved much less serious than might have been looked for.

The assets of the Company are still entered in the balance sheet at 2s. 1d. per dollar, though the course of exchange through the year would have warranted a higher valuation. It is satisfactory that exchange account and interest account on this occasion show a profit instead of a loss. Taking these items into account the profits have admitted of making a liberal provision for depreciation to the extent of £34,317; but the Board have judged it expedient to further write down the value of the fleet by £10,000 transferred from underwriting account.

There remains a sum of £45,737 17s. 7d. at the credit of profit and loss account, which admits of a dividend of 8 per cent., being the same rate as last year. This distribution will absorb £39,671 4s. 0d., leaving £6,066 13s. 7d. to be carried forward to next year's account.

The loss of the steamer *Tai Wo*, referred to in the last report, has been charged to the underwriting account of 1895, which nevertheless, after writing off the foregoing £10,000, shows the satisfactory balance at credit of £84,295 16s. 2d. A more lamentable disaster unfortunately occurred on the 30th April, 1896, the Company's river steamer *On Wo* having been run into by the steamer *Newchuang*, belonging to another Company, and immediately sunk with a loss of five Europeans and nearly 300 Chinese. Telegraphic advices state that a court of enquiry held at Shanghai has pronounced the *Newchuang* alone to be in fault. An adjustment of the loss sustained will be effected in due course.

At the last annual meeting reference was made to the case of the *Yik Sang*, seized by a Japanese cruiser in April, 1895, for having contraband of war among her cargo. Proceedings were taken against the shippers, and an arbitration was agreed to, the result of which was that full compensation for costs and loss of services was paid to the Company.

The directors very much regret having to report that their claim for the destruction of the steamer *Kow Shing* still remains unsettled. Correspondence is going on between the Foreign Office and the Chinese Government, but no final decision has yet been arrived at. The directors still look for suitable compensation being made, and they have used every effort in their power to urge increased expedition on the authorities having charge of the case.

The Board have found it necessary to make considerable additions to the fleet during the

past year, so as to bring their vessels up to the most modern standard, in which they would be second to no other steamers in the trade. The time was a favourable one for making fresh contracts, and the object of the Board has been satisfactorily carried out. The steamers *Amara* and *Tigris* (the latter now called the *Hin Sing*) were acquired by purchase, as also the smaller stern wheel steamer *Chang Wo*, which carries on the river traffic between Hankow and Ichang. The new vessels built for the Company and added to their list previous to 31st December last are the *On Sang*, *Sui Sang*, *King Sing*, and *Kut Wo*, the latter a river boat for the Yangtze.

In addition to these the *Fau Sang* and *Chun Sang* have been completed since January and despatched to China. The only steamer now building is another river boat for the Yangtze to replace the *On Wo*. When this vessel is completed the Company will have three first-class steamers to maintain their communications on that river.

Mr. James Macandrew and Mr. William Keswick are the directors who retire at this meeting, and being eligible they offer themselves for re-election.

The auditors, Messrs. Turquand Youngs & Co., will likewise be proposed for re-election.

By order of the Board,

J. MACANDREW, Chairman.

London, 19th May, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET, AT 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
To share capital:—Authorized	£1,200,000,			
first issue 60,000 each	£10, whereof 49,589			
subscribed and fully paid-up		495,890	0	0
To balance of underwriting	£			
account		94,295	16	2
Less transferred to depreciation account		10,000	0	0
		84,295	16	2
To sundry creditors in London and China		19,282	16	1
To loans		12,000	0	0
To bills payable		55,001	0	0
To balance of revenue account		45,737	17	7
		£712,207	9	10

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
By steamships, hulks, ferry boats, &c.		559,570	0	3
Less depreciation written off for this year		44,317	0	0
		515,253	0	3
By payments on account of new steamers		105,580	11	8
		620,833	11	11
[This includes the value of steamer "Kow Shing," claimed from the Chinese Government.]				
By coals and provisions on board ships and in godowns		6,304	9	11
By office furniture		100	0	0
By sundry debtors in London and China, agents' balances, freights, &c.		76,044	13	10
By cash in London and China		8,944	14	2
		£712,207	9	10

REVENUE ACCOUNT.		£	s.	d.
Dr.				
To general charges, telegrams, directors' and auditors' fees		4,928	7	5
To depreciation account—				
On steamships, &c.		34,317	0	0
Additional amount transferred from underwriting account		10,000	0	0
On office furniture		30	0	0
		44,347	0	0
To balance—Profit transferred to balance sheet		45,737	17	7
		£95,013	5	0
Cr.				
By balance brought forward from 1894		2,616	2	4
By amount transferred from underwriting account		10,000	0	0
By net earnings of steamers for the year		80,553	12	0
By exchange account		1,407	18	6
By interest account		423	19	8
By transfer fees		11	12	6
		£95,013	5	0

It appears that in the recent collision with the *Anding*, says the *N. C. Daily News*, the *Daphne* dragged her anchors and has to re-moor, while the *Archer* had two of her plates under water dented. The *Anding* herself is now on one of the anchors belonging to the moorings of the British Naval Buoy.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED.

The seventh ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong Electric Co., Limited, was held in the Company's offices, No. 27, Queen's Road, on Saturday 20th June. Mr. H. L. Dalrymple presided and there were also present—Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Mr. J. Kramer (Directors); Messrs. C. S. Sharp, A. B. Johnson, G. Stewart, E. J. Hughes, G. C. Cox, L. E. Ozorio, O. Baptista, S. H. Michael, Leung Sham Lam, A. Sung, and C. F. Harton (Secretary).

The Secretary read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, I propose, with your permission, to take them as read. As you will observe from the figures given in them the position shows a satisfactory advance on that of the previous year, the profit on working account being \$24,093.92 as against \$8,558.35. It may seem somewhat anomalous that this increase in our net profits should be so large, while the gross earnings of the Company show only some \$6,300 increase over those for the previous year, but it will be remembered that the figures for last year included a considerable sum brought forward from the account for 1893 and 1894 as representing installation work then in hand but uncompleted, whilst the item in the accounts now before you contains no such carrying forward. The principal increase has been in the revenue from incandescent lighting, and a reference to the manager's report will show you that the number of these lamps has increased from the equivalent of 3,740 of 8 candle-power to about 5,150, and it is to be hoped this means of lighting, which seems to give satisfaction, may come further into favour. We have also installed some seven arc lamps in H.M. Naval Yard, but as these were only brought into use on 1st May there is no revenue from that source included in the accounts now before you. Against our increased earnings for lighting we have had, for course, to meet some additional expenditure, but I am glad to say that in the matter of coals the average cost has been materially reduced, as foreshadowed in my remarks of last year. Our contracts having been renewed at a more moderate figure. This important matter will continue to have our closest attention. In the items of salaries, wages, and charges there has also been some increase, chiefly arising from additional expenses, including passage money, in consequence of leave given to a portion of the staff. The item of interest you will observe is on the credit side of the account this year instead of forming a dr. entry as in the past; this is partly due to our financial position being better and also to our having credited the accounts with all interest or unpaid calls of the shares previously forfeited. You will notice from the report we have disposed of all these at a satisfactory price, and an item for profit on same appears in our profit and loss account. In consequence of the continued increase in the number of houses in the colony, notably on the Praya reclamation, it has appeared to the Board that there must be a prospective increased demand for our light, to provide for which will necessitate some considerable addition to our plant; and the directors have decided to take advantage of Mr. Wickham's presence in Europe to commission him while there to select and purchase the necessary machinery of the latest and most suitable type for our requirements. To provide funds for this expenditure it will be necessary to make further calls on shareholders and the Board will in all probability call up towards the end of the year the balance of capital, say \$2 per share. With reference to the amount available for disposal you will notice that the Board has set apart a sum for directors' fees. This is really less by \$1,000 than the Company's articles allow of, but considering the full results of the Company's working have not yet been attained, the Board have for the present decided not to take the full amount. I would remind shareholders that these are the first fees the directors have had since the commencement of the Company in 1890. We have considered it advisable in the best interests of the Company

to again set aside a fair amount for depreciation of plant, &c., and I think the course should recommend itself to all shareholders, and I trust that the proposed appropriation of our profits will meet with your approval. Our Manager, Mr Wickham, left for home on the 4th of this month on furlough, and it is expected he will be absent for some eight months or so. I have pleasure in again recording the satisfaction the Board have felt with the care and attention bestowed on the work by Mr Wickham and the rest of the staff. These, gentlemen, are all the remarks which occur to me to make in regard to the Company's affairs; but before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may wish to put to the chair.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. A. B. JOHNSON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. G. C. Cox moved the re-election of Hon. C. P. Chater and Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving as Directors.

Mr. G. STEWART seconded.

Carried.

Mr. A. B. JOHNSON moved the re-election of the auditors, Messrs. Stewart and Peter.

Mr. OZORIO seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, that is all the business before the meeting. I hope when we meet again this time next year we shall show even better figures. The dividend warrants will be ready on Tuesday, and I hope shareholders will apply for them. I thank you for your attendance.

RAUB GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited, was convened for 8th May, at Brisbane, and fifty members were represented either personally or by proxy. Mr. E. A. Bell, in the absence of the chairman, presided. The Chairman said he did not propose to discuss the report and balance sheet, but, with the permission of those present, to move that the meeting be adjourned to Friday, the 22nd May. His reason for doing so was the receipt of a cablegram from Singapore, asking that a letter written from the Singapore office on the 13th April might be allowed to arrive before the annual meeting was held. That cablegram was not received till after the notices for the meeting had been sent out. As an act of courtesy to the Singapore board, he moved the adjournment of the meeting as indicated, and the motion was agreed to.

The following is the report:—

The directors have the pleasure to present herewith the balance sheet and profit and loss account for year ending 31st March, 1896, the Singapore accounts incorporated therein having been closed on 29th February.

Work at the mines has progressed satisfactorily; the railway has been completed and, so far, answers expectations. Had it not been for the expenditure connected with this and other capital items, a dividend could have been declared at an earlier date, and in addition to that now payable on 18th May. Shareholders are referred to the mining manager's report for details.

The report contains a recommendation that the crushing power at Raub should be increased to 100 head of stampers, to be worked by electricity. This matter has engaged the attention of the two Boards for a considerable time; and a specification is now being prepared which will permit an estimate of cost being arrived at. Under any circumstances—should the work be undertaken—the outlay will be considerable, and the Singapore Board suggest that the uncalled capital of the Company (or so much of it as is required) should be utilised to furnish funds.

Your directors, however, hesitate to commit shareholders to heavy payments, even over an extended period, without first obtaining a decided expression of opinion from those most interested; and it is probable that after the general meeting, to be held on 8th May, a special meeting will be called, at which the

issues will be distinctly formulated and discussed.

In accordance with the articles of association, all the directors—Messrs. Do Burch Persse, Robert Philp, George Frederick Scott, and James Forsyth, and the auditors, Messrs. W. Robertson Strong and T. A. Bond—retire, but are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly.

It will devolve upon the meeting to fix the auditors' remuneration.

(Signed) DE BURGH PERSSE,
Chairman.

Brisbane, 15th April, 1896.

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1896.

(INCORPORATING SINGAPORE BALANCE TO 29th FEBRUARY, 1896.)

LIABILITIES:		£	s.	d.
31st March, 1896.	Dr.			
To capital—200,000 shares		200,000	0	0
at £1 each				
Less unissued shares, 10,000		10,000	0	0
shares at £1 each				
		190,000	0	0
Uncalled capital on 140,000				
shares at 6s. 2d. per share		43,166	13	4
		146,833	6	8
To sundry creditors *				1,470 19 3
To unclaimed dividends:—				
Singapore		17	9	6
Brisbane		5	11	0
				23 0 6
To profit and loss				4,269 16 1
				£152,597 2 6

* This includes £902 5s. 4d. on account of R. Sefton's shares.

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
31st March, 1896.	Cr.			
By mining property (nominal)				132,590 2 10
By machinery		7,249	18	6
By plant		273	6	6
By tools, implements, & stores		1,012	5	6
By railway		3,246	8	0
By quartz hoppers		150	0	0
By buildings		1,500	1	6
By timber		109	6	0
By firewood		425	18	0
By furniture—Singapore and				
Raub		215	0	0
		14,182	4	0
By value of 22nd crushing, belonging to				
year ending 29th February, viz., 1,119				
ozs. gold from 2,200 tons of stone				4,029 7 4
By balance to credit dividend account:—				
Singapore		16	9	6
Brisbane		5	11	0
				23 0 6
By cash balance:—				
Singapore		1,393	15	9
Raub		328	3	5
Brisbane		50	8	8
		1,772	7	10
		£152,597	2	6

PROFIT AND LOSS.

	£	s.	d.
1st April, 1895.			
To balance down	1,389	13	10
31st March, 1896.			
To directors' and auditors' fees, salaries,			
and charges	568	8	10
To legal expenses	11	7	1
To interest	2	13	5
To wages and expenses at			
Raub, including cost of			
Singapore office, and direc-			
tors' fees	12,854	16	5
To stores, tools, implements	766	18	10
To fuel	1,301	2	10
To timber	302	3	10
	15,225	1	11

To depreciation:—			
Plant and machinery	936	18	6
Buildings	147	6	0
Furniture (Raub)	16	0	0
	1,100	4	6
To balance down	4,269	16	1
	£22,567	5	8

	£	s.	d.
31st March, 1896.			
By gold account:—			
Net proceeds of 6,174 ozs. of gold from			
12,299 tons of stone (including value			
of 22nd crushing, viz., 1,119 ozs. from			
2,200 tons of stone), after payment of			
royalty, cost of transit, insurance, &c.	22,341	17	11
By rents	169	16	0
By net proceeds of concentrates	55	11	9
	£22,567	5	8

1st April—By balance down £4,269 16 1

The following is the Mining Manager's report for five weeks ending 11th June, 1896:—

Raub Hole.—The main drive going in on the course of the lode at the 220 ft. level is now in 66 feet north from the crosscut. There is no change to report in the appearance of this drive. The lode formation still continues small, 3 to 4 in., and shows no gold. The country is hard blasting black slate with a number of small leaders coming in from the east side, but they carry no gold.

The Intermediate Drive going in south from the winze is now in 109 feet. I regret to say there is no improvement in this drive, which should have cut the ore chut before this. I am afraid this chute of ore has pinched small, owing to the hard nature of the ground, or it is dying out. In the stopes coming in over the back of this drive the lode is from 6 to 15 in. wide and carries fair gold. In the stopes going north the lode is from 6 to 15 in. wide and carries fair gold. These stopes rise as they go north and will soon run out into the level above. So far the section between the 120 and 22 ft. levels has been a disappointment.

Bukit Koman.—This mine still continues to open up remarkably well. In the main drive going north at the No. 1 (149ft.) level the lode in the face is fully 15 feet wide and shows payable gold all through, the whole of which is being sent to the mill for crushing. The ground is good working ground and a large quantity of crushing stuff is being sent from here. This drive is now in over 300 feet from the crosscut and the lode for the whole distance will average from 14 to 16 ft. wide, every particle of which is payable.

The South Main Level still continues to look remarkably well. In the face of the drive there is a well defined solid lode fully 6 feet wide between clean well defined walls, and shows good gold all through. This is one of the best formed lodes I have yet seen at Raub. Fair progress is being made in driving this level, which is now in 364 ft. south from crosscut.

In the Leading Stope coming in 140 ft. behind the face of the drive the lode is fully 15 feet wide, the whole of which is being sent to the mill. These stopes and the two drives are supplying almost all the crushing stuff sent from this mine. There is no change in the stopes above this level, and there is very little work doing in them, as we do not require the stuff.

No. 2, 250 feet level.—The lode has been met with in this level at 19 feet in from the shaft; we are now about 6 feet in it with no signs of being through. The lode has a clean well defined hanging-wall and is very hard and solid. Fair gold can be seen in the stone as far as we have gone, but it is too early yet to say much about it. This, I believe, is the greatest depth at which gold has been got in the Malay Peninsula and marks a very important epoch in the history of Raub and gold mining in Pahang, as it proves conclusively that the lodes and gold live in depth here the same as in other countries. It is my intention as soon as we cut through the lode to open levels both north and south on it and resume sinking the shaft another 100 feet.

The new 10-in. pump, which has now been working over a month, is giving every satisfaction and easily keeps the water out at ten strokes per minute.

Western Lode.—This mine still continues to look very well. The lode continues to make south into new ground and shows fair gold. The stopes continue to turn out their full complement of crushing stuff, with every promise of continuing to do so for a considerable time. The water in this mine still causes a lot of trouble with the pumps owing to the acidity of the water. Last week we had to take the pump out of this shaft and replace it by another, as the iron work was completely eaten away by the water.

Bukit Malacca.—Preparations are now being made to put in another boiler and an additional 8-in. pump into this shaft. When this work is completed the sinking of the shaft will be resumed. It is to be hoped with two 8 in. pumps and the additional boiler power we shall be able to get down the required depth of 150 feet before opening out for the lode.

Battery.—This has been kept at work full time since the date of my last report. On

Monday, the 7th inst., a rough clean up took place; 1,464 tons of ore yielded 1,500 oz. amalgam. Crushing was resumed again the same day.

General.—During the past five weeks the weather has been very hot and dry. There has been a change the last day or two; several showers have fallen, which have cooled the air and ground. The camp is remarkably healthy, there being practically little or no sickness. Mr. L. J. Fraser, Tras, and this Company have supplied a good deal of medicine to coolies working on the Selangor Pahang main road. There are about 2,000 coolies employed on the Tras and Raub sections of this road. It is certainly not to the credit of these Governments that there is not a shed or a dresser to attend to the sick or injured. The nearest place where medical aid can be got is Kuala Lipis or Kwala Kubu, 40 and 30 miles distant.

Mr. John Anderson, one of the Singapore directors of this Company, visited Raub last week and spent several days inspecting the underground working of the different mines. He also visited the falls on the Sempam river and the proposed site of the electric power. As the water in the river is now about as low as it is known to be, a good opportunity of ascertaining the minimum flow can be got. There is certainly three or four times more than we are likely to require for a long time.

WM. BIBBY, Mining Manager.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

CYANIDE PROCESS

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the Mine, being the result of the cyanide clean up (second run):—
"Eight hundred and sixty tons tailings treated, yielding 293 oz. of bullion of an average assay value of £1 18s. per oz."

MONTHLY REPORT.

The Secretary also advises us that he has received the following progress report on the work carried on during the month of May from the Manager of the mines:—

Mining.—This has again had our best attention and fair progress has been made.

August Shaft, 200 ft. level.—A good deal of work has been done at this level, but I regret to say we have not yet met with the success I had hoped for. This applies more particularly to our western chute of ore on the course of east and west reef. We have put out drives in search of this ore body and although these have crossed its proper course, nothing of value has been found. We are now putting a cross-cut north-east to see if it has been thrown in that direction, and shall soon prove whether or not it is continuous in depth. That we shall find it directly there can be little doubt, as at the intermediate level it is fully 15 feet wide in places and appears strong enough to go to any depth.

The north drive on Gillies' reef is still in good looking country, but up to this time it shows nothing of value. And this applies also to the south drive on the course of the north and south reef at this level. The stopes in the back of the course of the north and south reef have improved, and are now producing fairly large quantities of ore for the mill.

Intermediate Level.—This point continues to give a large quantity of fair grade ore for the mill, and from appearances will do so for some time yet. The winze sinking below this level on the course of the chute of payable ore has passed through the quartz and is now in what appears to be footwall rock. This is altogether unexpected and shows that the reef has changed its dip and direction entirely. It is now dipping to the north-east at an angle of about twenty-five deg. from the horizontal and carrying a course of about W. 45 deg. N. instead of east and west as hitherto. I need not tell you this change has led to the driving of the crosscut referred to in an earlier part of this report.

110 ft. Level.—Stoping is being carried on over the back of this level on the course of the east and west reef and I am pleased to say the ore mined is payable. We can now see a pretty large reserve of ore here, too.

New Leader.—The various points at work here continue to give their usual quantities of

fair grade ore for the mill and should do so for some time longer.

Drivage for the month 346 ft. 6 in.
Ore mined 1,000 tons.
made up as follows:—

August Shaft 600 tons.
New Leader 400 tons.

Milling.—This was carried on during 26 days, crushing 1,000 tons, yielding 442 ozs. 2 dwts. of melted gold.

Calcining.—This was carried on during 28 days, treating 42 tons of concentrates yielding 75 oz. of melted gold.

Of course my weekly letters will have told you why both this plant and the mill did not work full time.

Cyanide Works.—The clean-up from 610 tons of clean tailings resulted in a yield of 237 ozs. 5 dwts. of bullion valued at £2 2s. 8d. per oz. These works are now running full time on similar material and the next clean-up will be commenced about the 16th proximo. This process may now be said to have really commenced on a large scale, and I look forward to some years of profitable work for it.

General.—A very large amount of work which may properly come under this head has been carried on and, everything considered, good progress has been made. The 9 in. plunger pump for tailings has been fixed in a most substantial manner and will soon be ready for use. One of the small Robey engines and the "Sinyum" boiler have been erected to work this pump, till such time as the water wheel is ready for use.

Ten new hand buddles for replacing the blanket tables in the mill have been made and are ready to lay in position. All the parts of the water wheel are now on the mine, as also all the heavy foundation logs, and the necessary framing and planks for the wheelpit. Large quantities of concentrates and tailings have been shifted to make room for the main tail race from the Jalis River and a large section of the race completed.

Contracts for the remaining section have been let, as also one for excavating the wheel pit, and I expect to see much of these completed by the end of the coming month.

The brick kiln and drying shed and about 5,000 bricks are ready for burning.

Roads into the jungle for firewood and other timbers have been extended and a track cut to another timber reserve, where there is an enormous quantity of good timber. All the flood gates for use in the race between the mill and the main dam are in position, and men are now preparing the necessary timber for raising the retaining wall of the dam itself.

Labour.—This was deplorably short in the early part of the month, but I am pleased to say it is again coming in more freely.

Health.—This is by no means good, but I am hoping for an improvement with the dry weather we are now experiencing here.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 3½ inches.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Ten members competed on Saturday afternoon for the Short Range Cup and Spoons over the 500 and 600 yards distances. Mr. F. Smyth not having entered for the Cup, this trophy fell for the first time to Colour-Sgt. Hopkins, R.B., who compiled a magnificent "possible" at the longer distance, commencing with a "sighter," also a "bull." The Spoons were won by Mr. F. Smyth, Petty Officer Goodger, R.N., and Col. Sergt. Hopkins, R.B. The following were the best scores:—

	500 yards.	600 yards.	Allowance for M. H. rifle.	Handicap.	Total.
Mr. F. Smyth	27	31	6	scr.	64
P.O. Goodger, R.N.	30	21	6	—	74
Col. Sergt. Hopkins, R.B.	28	35	—	—	63
P.O. Bishop, R.N.	31	21	6	—	60
Prvte Murfitt, R.B.	22	25	—	—	59

There was only one case of plague on Sunday and one yesterday. The first case came from the city and the second from Quarry Bay.

LORD KELVIN'S PROFESSORIAL JUBILEE.

The following telegrams have been exchanged between H.E. the Governor and Lord Kelvin:—

THE GOVERNOR TO LORD KELVIN.

Hearty congratulations Jubilee professorship notable achievements in cause of science especially in regard to Submarine Telegraphy and Navigation.

ROBINSON.

LORD KELVIN TO THE GOVERNOR.

I thank you warmly for kind congratulations and reference to my efforts for Submarine Telegraphy.

KELVIN.

Lord Kelvin was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Glasgow in 1846 and has therefore completed his jubilee in that appointment.

CORRECTION

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE OLIVERS MINES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—We note in Messrs. Chater and Vernon's share report published in your issue to-day the following paragraph appears respecting the offer made from London to buy the properties of the Olivers Mines, Limited:—"The arrangement with the Anglo and Australian Co. reported in our last has been finally settled." As General Managers of the above Company we wish to state that this is not correct. The offer to buy was made subject to the favourable report of the Anglo and Australian Company's expert, which has not yet been made.—Your obedient servants,

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers,

Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited.
Hongkong, 18th June, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In reference to Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son's letter in your issue of to-day, dealing with the statement made in our circular of the 17th inst. that the Olivers Freehold Co.'s property had been finally transferred to the Anglo and Australian Co., and stating that the same was incorrect, we would esteem it a favour if you would allow us space to give our authority for the statement. To commence with, our remarks referred to the Olivers Freehold and the New Balmoral Co., but as the negotiations for the transfer of the properties are, we believe, being carried on jointly this need make no difference to the matter at issue.

On the 10th or 11th inst. a report of the proceedings at the private meeting of the Balmoral Co.'s shareholders was circulated, at the foot of which the following was published as a P.S.:—"The following telegram from Mr. Ackroyd was received on the 9th inst. 'Have made arrangements to take all the commissions in shares, Anglo will pay expenses from date, the mines have been favourably reported on, flotation with the utmost despatch.'" This telegram was also published by the *China Mail* of the 9th inst. as referring to the properties of the two Companies and it was on the authority of the telegram and the circulation of it by the Managers that we stated the transfer had been finally settled. We now learn that the above telegram was mistranslated, mispointed, or mispunctuated by some one; that the comma after the word "date" should not have been there, and that the message in the opinion of the managers should have read—"Have made arrangements to take all commissions in shares Anglo will pay expenses from date the mines have been favourably reported upon," &c. As far as we know no attempt was made to contradict or correct the first version of the telegram other than the publication of the following paragraph, which appeared in the local papers of the 15th inst.:—"We learn from the General Managers of the Olivers Freehold Co. and the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co. that an offer to purchase the properties of the two Companies by the

Anglo and Australian Co., London, has been accepted. The offer is subject to the mines being favourably reported on by the expert of the Anglo and Australian Co." This paragraph was looked on by us, and we venture to think by the public, as a tardy announcement of part of the proceedings at the private meeting, and anyway had nothing definite or explicit about it in the way of a correction of the telegram published on the 9th inst.

With apologies to you and your readers for taking up so much of your valuable space on a more or less personal matter.—Yours faithfully,

CHATER & VERNON.

Hongkong, 19th June, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

SIR,—In reference to Messrs. Chater and Vernon's letter appearing in your issue of this morning and Mr. Eric George's Share Report published by his attorney Mr. Vernon in this evening's *China Mail*, we would point out that the telegram from the Anglo-Australian Co. was embodied in a private circular reporting the proceedings held at a private meeting of Balmoral shareholders. No permission was given either by the General Managers of the Balmoral Co. or by us to make the telegram public and on the first occasion when it was made public we distinctly informed a member of Messrs. Chater and Vernon's firm that we did not read the telegram in the same way his firm had done. When on Friday last we found that Messrs. Chater and Vernon persisted in giving the same rendering to the telegram we considered it necessary to make a public correction.—We are, sir, your obedient servants,

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers,

Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited.
Hongkong, 20th June, 1896.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—We hoped not to have occasion to again claim your indulgence and that of your readers, but the letter from Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son in your last issue almost makes it incumbent upon us to again ask you to give us space for a rejoinder. Messrs. J. D. Humphreys and Son lay stress on the private nature of the circular issued to the New Balmoral Co.'s shareholders on the 10th inst., but as the telegram contained therein, which is the bone of contention between us, appeared in the *China Mail* of the 9th inst., or before the circular was in the hands of the shareholders, we contend that it could not be looked upon as of a private nature. In regard to Messrs. J. D. Humphreys having told a member of our firm that they did not read the telegram in the same way as we had done and that the transfer had not been made, we freely admit that this was done, and whilst admitting that they did so inform a member of our firm and regretting that the writer of the circular was not told of the fact before publishing the circular, we submit (1st) that there were no possible two ways of reading the telegram as published by the managers and that the statement in our circular was in strict accordance with it. (2nd) That this or similar intimations were very insufficient for such an important matter and that if the management had discovered the telegram was open to another construction it should have been either definitely stated in the public press or privately circulated amongst shareholders. We must again apologise for troubling you in this matter and trust you will favour us by publishing this our last letter on the subject.—Yours faithfully,

CHATER & VERNON.

Hongkong, 22nd June, 1896.

THE SANITARY BOARD—ILLEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The action tried before Commander Hastings at the Magistracy on Saturday last, being the Sanitary Board against Mr. Choy Chan, the owner of 26 and 28, Gage Street, for a breach of by-law No. 5 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, and in which judgment was given against the Board, is of considerable interest to all pro-

perty holders in the colony and one which we have been trying to bring to a head for over four months.

The by-law in question refers to obstructions in back yards. Mr. V. H. Deacon appeared for the defendant and it was ruled that the by-law in question is not retrospective, or, in other words, does not apply to any structure erected prior to the date of the passing of the by-law, which was the 23rd March, 1895.

Our object in writing this letter is to point out how the Board has been acting in connection with this by-law.

So long ago as the 17th February last we wrote to the Board informing them, on behalf of a client, that we had been advised their action was illegal and that they had no right to issue the notices which they were doing, viz., a printed form calling upon the owner to remove all obstructions in his back yard within a certain number of days or a prosecution would be instituted. No reply was received to this letter and no prosecution commenced. On the 19th February we again wrote to the Board on behalf of another client, saying that their action was illegal. On the 2nd March another letter to the same effect. On the 11th March we wrote another letter in which we not only stated that we were advised that the action of the Board was illegal, but asked that a prosecution might be instituted at an early date to settle the matter. Still no reply and no prosecution.

Since then we have written on behalf of ten more clients, informing the Board on each occasion that their action was illegal, and in no instance have we received any reply. It was not until the case on Saturday that the Board proceeded to prosecute any one of our clients who was prepared to defend, though during this time some of our clients who, Chinese like, were unwilling to oppose the powers that be were prosecuted and fined.

Now, we say that the Board ought at an early date to have satisfied itself as to the legality of its actions. In the face of the number of letters from us, and we believe from others, it is difficult to believe that a Department like the Sanitary Board did not consult the legal advisers of the Crown when they were repeatedly told that their action was illegal. Instead, however, of proceeding at an early date with a test case they passed those who were prepared to defend and continued for over four months to issue these notices from house to house wherever they found the back yards obstructed. A large number of house owners, on receipt of a printed notice of this kind headed by the Royal Arms and threatening prosecution, considered that they had no option but to comply, and we can prove that numbers have been thus coerced into pulling down structures which were perfectly legal. We venture to think that had there been an unofficial majority on the Board action of this kind would never have been sanctioned.—Yours truly

LEIGH and ORANGE,
Mem.Inst.C.E.

Hongkong, 21st June, 1896.

SOUTH FORMOSA.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

ANPING, 13th June.

Little or no opium is now cleared from the Customs godown at Anping, local requirements being drawn from supplies brought in by junks. There is little doubt that smuggling is winked at by the Customs authorities. The junk trade is, naturally, flourishing under such favourable conditions.

The export duty on sugar is to be returned, on production of a landing certificate signed by the Japanese Consul at port of destination. This applies only to sugar upon which the tax has been paid, proof of which must be given to the Customs at time of shipment. Sugars to Japan are already exempt from duty, so that the revenue from this source will now practically be nil. Why the tax was ever introduced to the detriment of the Customs revenue is a point which might well occupy the attention of the genius at Taipei who, we believe, is responsible for the hopeless confusion in which the Customs and lekin offices are now thrown. The chief occupation of the Customs

staff will now be to collect duties one day and to return them the next.

Foreign residents at Tamsui will regret to hear of the death of Dr. Nigataki, sanitary officer, who succumbed to fever at Takow a few days ago.

The camphor difficulties are happily at end, the Japanese Government having agreed to allow the trade to continue on the old lines, pending discussion of the question at Tokyo.

The civil office at Anping having been transferred to Tainan removes Mr. Matsumoto, LL.B., a gentleman to whom foreigners owe a debt of gratitude. Mr. Matsumoto landed with the troops in October last, and with a thorough knowledge of English, immediately identified himself with the foreigners, and worked to make things go smoothly when all was, naturally, trouble and confusion. In his conduct of affairs throughout this trying time, and indeed ever since, he has shown such tact and, with Chinese, so much forbearance and kindness, that his removal to Tainan is a matter of general regret.

HONGKONG.

A good deal of rain has fallen during the week and on Monday night we had a very heavy thunderstorm with exceedingly vivid lightning and torrents of welcome rain. Happily the plague is leaving us, as during the week there have been very few cases indeed, two of the days bringing only one case each. Two or three interesting cases have been heard by the Magistrate, and the Criminal Sessions were commenced on Thursday, the principal case for trial being a charge of murder against an armed robber. The Hongkong Sanitary Board met on Thursday and transacted some important business. On Saturday the shareholders of the Hongkong Electric Light Company, Limited, held their ordinary meeting. There was a "breeze" at an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, held on Monday. The meeting was called principally for the purpose of increasing the directors' fees and the opposition of two of the shareholders led to some lively proceedings.

The death rate last month was 34.3 for the British and Foreign community, civil population, and 25.9 for the Chinese.

There were 5 cases of plague on the 17th June, 2 on the 18th, 3 on the 19th, 4 on the 20th, 1 on the 21st, and 1 on the 22nd.

The steamer *Hanoi*, reported a few days ago as being ashore off Hainan Head, has been floated, apparently undamaged, and at last advices was at Hoihow.

Judgment for the defendants with costs has been delivered by Mr. T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Puisne Judge) in the collision case which was heard at the Supreme Court last week.

L'Avenir du Tonkin of the 13th June says:—As we go to press we hear of the death in France of M. Simon, who was for some time in charge of the Hongkong branch of the Banque de l'Indo-Chine. M. Simon, who was ill when he arrived at Hongkong, left in April last to return to his native country.

The men-of-war in the harbour were dressed on Saturday in celebration of the accession of Her Majesty the Queen. The Royal Standard was also hoisted at the Naval Yard. When the Queen's birthday was celebrated the flag staff at the Naval Yard snapped and so no flag was hoisted there on that occasion.

A meeting of the members of the Field Battery of the Hongkong Volunteers was convened on Monday for the purpose of electing a corporal and two acting corporals. Gunner S. W. Hayward was selected for the rank of corporal and Gunners W. Humphreys and Meek were elected for the acting positions. The appointments are subject to the confirmation of the Commandant.

At the Police Court on the 17th June before Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Peter Gruenwald, second engineer of the *Martha*, was again charged with unlawfully wounding two coolies on the ship by shooting them. Mr. Mounsey prosecuted and Mr. Bowley defended. Dr. Atkinson certified that the injured men would not be able to leave the hospital for another week and the accused was again remanded.

We hear that an arrangement has been entered into by which the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, lease the property of the Wanchai Godown Co., Limited.

Twenty-three coolies formed a queue before the Magistrate on the 17th June charged with committing a breach of the peace. They had entered a coolie house at the Peak from which the tenants had been evicted and when the Police heard they were there the arrests were made. Each defendant was fined \$5. Two head coolies were then charged with forcibly entering the place and they were fined \$25 each.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Lau Wai Chün	...	...	\$50
B. and S. Compradore	...	...	25
M. M.	...	...	25
Mok Wan-Sheung	...	...	10
Jack A. Young	...	...	10
A. C.	...	...	5
W. S. Harrison	...	...	5

The *Activ* arrived at Hongkong in tow of the *Hongkong* on Tuesday night and on the 17th June she was taken to Kowloon Dock. The *Activ*, which went ashore near Sad Point on the 7th April, had been temporarily patched up in a bay near Sad Point and when she arrived here in charge of Mr. Jack she was slightly making water. Pumps were placed on board and she went into dock on the 18th. It is expected that the repairs will take a considerable time to effect.

The Government of Pahang have granted the application of the Raub Company to use the waters of the Simpan River, Ulu Pahang, for the purposes of electric installation. A telegram from Raub dated 8th instant states:—"Rough cleaning-up of battery yielded 1,500 oz. amalgam, estimated quantity of stone crushed being 1,450 tons. Bukit Koman. Have struck reef in west crosscut from lowest level, carrying gold, four feet wide; not yet through the reef." The above figures give about 500 ounces of smelted gold from 1,450 tons of stone.

Early on the morning of the 17th June the second engineer on the *Hongkong*, a Frenchman named Joseph Pethourtiery, came to his death by drowning in the harbour and it is thought he committed suicide. He had been on the *Hongkong* for about eight months and latterly had developed very intemperate habits and was frequently in a state of intoxication. On one occasion he attempted to blow his brains out in a drunken fit, but he was prevented from carrying out his intention. On Tuesday afternoon, at five o'clock, he was lying helplessly drunk in his cabin and was quite incapable of going on duty. About eleven o'clock on Tuesday night the *Hongkong* arrived off the west of Stonecutters' Island with the *Activ* in tow, and at that time the second engineer was lying in his cabin. He was last seen about two o'clock in the morning and at five o'clock he was missed, and he must either have jumped overboard or have accidentally fallen into the water, the former theory being the more likely one. His body has not yet been found.

A coolie made a very extraordinary and determined attempt to commit suicide on the 19th June. About six months ago he was discharged from his employment at 8, Bonham Strand, because it was thought he was mentally weak and therefore unable to properly perform his duties as a coolie. Yesterday morning he returned to the shop and said that 30 cents was due to him for wages. This complaint was altogether groundless and the shopman told him so. The coolie thereupon picked up a chopper which was lying near the counter and hacked the top part of his head and inflicted several ugly wounds. The shopman ran round the counter and caught hold of the would-be suicide and in endeavouring to wrest the chopper from the coolies' grasp got cut himself on his chest. An Indian constable was in the neighbourhood and he took the coolie to the station, where his wounds were dressed, and he was afterwards sent to the Government Civil Hospital. The shopman's injuries were not serious and did not necessitate his removal to the hospital.

The captain and officers of the British ship *Scottish Isles*, which arrived a day or two ago from Cardiff with coals, had rather a disagreeable voyage. One day nine of the crew refused to work and although they were threatened with deprivation of their tea they persisted in their refusal and consequently had to go short of tea. The men then resolved to make things as unpleasant as possible for the captain and the officers and not only refused to work, but three of them picked up belaying pins and assaulted the captain and chief mate. Owing to the mutinous conduct of the men the captain had to call at Anjer Head for a crew of natives to work the vessel, and on arriving in Hongkong he reported the occurrences to the Harbour Master. The nine men were taken before the Harbour Master on Wednesday and the prosecution was conducted by Mr. J. Hastings. The evidence for the prosecution was unshaken by the cross-examination of the prisoners, one of whom had earned the reputation of being the ship's lawyer. The Harbour Master found all the men guilty. Three of them were sent to gaol for twelve weeks for assault and a further period of two weeks for refusal of duty. Another three were sentenced to ten weeks, one to eight weeks, and two to twelve weeks for refusal to work.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

Hankow, 11th June.—Business reported since the 8th inst. is as under:—

	1896.	1895.
Settlements ...	122,856 ½-chts.	35,708 ½-chts.
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
		per picul.
Ningchows...	25,558 ½-chts. at Tls.	10.50 to 31.00
Khemuns ...	1,883 " "	12.25 to 23.75
Ho-hows.....	1,563 " "	10.25 to 11.50
Oopacks	8,500 " "	11.50 to 24.00
Oonams	37,935 " "	11.00 to 23.00
Oonfaas	40,660 " "	17.75 to 25.00
Seang-tams..	4,080 " "	9.10 to 12.50
Ichang	2,627 " "	19.00 to 37.25

The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding number of days from the opening of last season, viz., 37 days:—

	1896.	1895.
Hankow Tea.		
Settlements ...	417,897 ½-chts.	505,445 ½-chts.
Stock	113,182 " "	28,921 " "
Arrivals.....	531,079 " "	534,367 " "
Kiukiang Tea.		
Settlements ...	230,381 ½-chts.	251,423 ½-chts.
Stock	15,743 " "	11,276 " "
Arrivals.....	246,124 " "	262,699 " "

The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding number of days from the opening of last season, viz., 37 days, is as under:—

	1896.	1895.
For London and		
America	196,000 ½-chts.	153,000 ½-chts.
For Russia	452,278 " "	203,869 " "
	648,278 " "	756,869 " "

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 19th June.—(From Mr. A. E. Burkill's circular)—London telegrams to 16th current advise a firmer market at 8/- for Gold Kiling and 10/- for Blue Elephants. Raw Silks.—Rumours of a deficit in Italian production have been current for some days, and may possibly account for the advance in prices quoted below. At the advance there is some hesitation on the part of buyers, and in fact some doubt as to the purchases of Gold Kiling at Tls. 340 being for a foreign market. Masters of new Silks have been shewn during the week, size and quality appear satisfactory, but the colour of most of the samples is not so good as it was last season. Tsattees.—About 150 bales have changed hands at rather irregular prices, but mostly on a basis of Tls. 340 for new and Tls. 330 for old Gold Kilings. China Filatures.—About 100 bales have been settled for the Continent, Yellow Silk.—Purchases are restricted to market Mienchows and Shantung Skeins; only 50 bales have changed hands. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns 11th to 17th current, 734 bales White, 19 piculs Yellow, and 295 piculs Wild Silks. Waste Silks.—No business reported. Pongees.—A very moderate business is doing in 20/21 oz. ordinary lengths and widths at Tls. 1.70 and in heavy goods of 33/34 inches at Tls. 6.50. The

export of Steam Filatures since 11th June is:—
To Continent 72 bales, to America 32 bales.

CAMPION.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—Business is dull and prices are still tending downwards. Quotations for Formosa are \$36.00 to \$36.50. During the past week sales have been 190 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—Owing to small arrivals prices are a little firmer. Following are the quotations:—

Sheklong, No. 1, White...	\$7.15 to 7.18	per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.54 to 6.57	"
Sheklong, No. 1, Brown...	4.47 to 4.50	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.30 to 4.32	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.07 to 7.10	"
do. " 2, White...	6.42 to 6.45	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.37 to 4.40	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.25 to 4.28	"
Soochow Sugar Candy.....	10.79 to 10.82	"
Sheklong "	9.27 to 9.30	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Telamon*, Hongkong to London, 4th June, took:—200 casks Ginger, 66 rolls Matting 140 bales Split Bamboo, 85 bales Canes, 213 bags Galangal roots, and 8 packages Sundries; for London and/or Manchester:—50 bales Waste Silk; for Liverpool:—1 case Curios; for Glasgow:—21 cases Ginger; for Amsterdam:—1 case Sundries.

The German steamer *Ceres*, Hongkong to Havre, 16th June, took:—690 rolls Matting, 342 packages Tea, 90 cases Chinaware, 20 cases Paper, 20 cases Bristles, 10 cases Human Hair, 2 cases Silks, 7 cases Bristles, 4 bales Feathers, and 35 bales Canes; for Havre option Hamburg:—18 cases Blackwoodware, 35 cases Chinaware, 335 cases Camphor, 10 bales Human Hair, and 35 cases Canes; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—362 cases Camphor, 100 cases Bristles, and 350 cases Cassia Ligna; for Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—50 cases Bristles; for Hamburg:—83 cases Chinaware, 1 case Silk, 300 cases Cassia buds, 29 cases Essential Oil, 307 bales Canes, 200 bales Chinaware, 20 cases Teasicks, 17 cases Palmleaffans, 20 cases Blackwoodware, 1,000 cases Cassia, 6 cases China Ink, 19 cases Bristles, 4 cases Private Effects, 17 cases Paper, 25 bales Rattan Shavings, 200 cases Camphor, 84 bales Feathers, 100 bales Galangal, 6,100 packages Tea, 146 rolls Matting, 13 bales Rattans, and 3 packages Sundries; for Hamburg option Bremen:—17 bales Rattan Shavings, 4 bales Split Bamboo, and 1 bale Waste Silk; for Bremen:—775 packages Tea; for Amsterdam:—68 bales Duckfeathers; for London:—50 bales Bamboo Shavings, and 336 bales Canes.

The P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, Hongkong to London, 18th June, took:—10 cases Silks, 3,894 boxes Tea (3,337 lbs Congou, 60,879 lbs. Scented Caper, 12,558 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe); for Gibraltar:—2 cases Cigars; for Milan:—75 bales Waste Silk; for France:—955 bales Waste Silk.

The steamer *Teucer*, Hongkong to London, 18th June, took:—2,518 boxes Tea (57,078 lbs. Scented Caper, 4,800 lbs. Congou), 34 cases Cigars, 7 cases Curios, 100 cases Preserves, 10 casks Preserves, 2,475 packages Fire Crackers, 3 packages Rattanware, 8 packages Effects, and 9 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester:—100 bales Waste Silk; for Liverpool:—2,100 bales Hemp and 1 package Sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Manila*, Hongkong to London, 19th June, took:—18 cases Cigars, 50 bales Waste Silk, 50 packages Canes, 38 cases Chinaware, 11 cases Blackwood and Porcelainware, 24 cases Persian Opium, 2,349 slabs Spelter, 18 pieces Spelter, 41 packages Sundries, 20,147 boxes Tea (32,172 lbs. Congou, 376,383 lbs. Scented Caper, 14,532 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe), and 856 packages Tea (Particulars unknown).

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—Bengal.—The market has continued rather dull owing to absence of demand, closing rates for New Patna being \$675, Old Patna \$712½, New Benares \$685, Old Benares \$725.

Malwa.—Business has been rather slack. Current quotations are as under:—

New	\$730 with all'ance of 2 to 4½ cts.
Old (2½ yrs.)	\$750 " 1 to 2½ "
" (5/10 ..)	\$760 " ½ to 2½ "

Persian.—There has been very little doing during the week. Closing quotations are as follows:

Oily \$570 to \$600, Paper-wrapped \$570 to \$650.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna.....	2,120 chests.
Old Patna	440 "
New Benares	160 "
Old Benares	70 "
Malwa	300 "
Persian	1,150 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896. \$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 18	690	717½	705	735	730	750/760
June 19	690	717½	702½	735	730	750/760
June 20	680	712½	690	730	730	750/760
June 21	680	712½	690	730	730	750/760
June 22	675	712½	685	725	730	750/760
June 23	675	712½	685	725	730	750/760

RICE.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—The Canton market is still weak and prices have further declined. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	per picul.
" Round, good quality	\$2.15 to 2.20
" Long	2.50 to 2.54
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.62 to 2.65
" Garden, " No. 1	2.47 to 2.50
" White	2.70 to 2.73
" Fine Cargo	3.02 to 3.05
"	3.25 to 3.28

COALS.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—Sales of 5,000 tons Japanese are reported. Quotations are:—
Cardiff \$12.50 to 12.85 ex ship, nominal. || Australian | 6.50 to 6.75 ex ship, nominal. |
Milke Lump	5.69 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small	4.65 to — ex ship, do
Moji Lump	4.28 to 5.50 ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn*.—25 bales No. 8 at \$65.50, 1,205 bales No. 10 at \$72 to \$73, 765 bales No. 16 at \$84 to \$89, 790 bales No. 20 at \$88 to \$92. *Grey Shirtings*.—1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Kinway at \$3.78, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Lion and Arrow at \$2.70, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.42½. *White Shirtings*.—1,500 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.82½, 1,500 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.17½. *T-Clotbs*.—600 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Pag da at \$2.30. *Turkey Reds*.—500 pieces 2½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.42½, 500 pieces 2½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.5½. *Long Ells*.—225 pieces 2 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.05, 400 pieces 10 lbs. Scarlet at \$7.65. *Camlets*.—500 pieces Old Men assorted at \$17.75, 800 pieces Fisherman assorted at \$17.90, 400 pieces 8 Persons assorted at \$17.50.

METALS:—*Yellow Metals*.—28 cases Elliott 14/28 ozs. at \$25.75.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20	per bale
English—Nos. 16 to 24	\$63.00 to \$81.00
" 22 to 24	104.00 to 108.00
" 28 to 32	109.00 to 112.00
" 38 to 42	114.00 to 119.00
"	124.00 to 131.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs.	per piece
7lbs.	1.40 to 1.55
8½ lbs.	1.85 to 2.05
9 to 10 lbs.	2.20 to 3.10
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	3.20 to 4.00
58 to 60 "	2.30 to 2.50
64 to 66 "	2.65 to 3.25
Fine	3.30 to 3.75
Book-folds.	4.05 to 6.90
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	3.20 to 5.40
T-Clotbs—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	0.60 to 1.25
7lbs. (32 ")	1.40 to 1.55
6lbs. (32 ")	1.80 to 2.95
7lbs. (32 ")	1.60 to 1.75
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.)	2.15 to 2.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14lbs.	2.35 to 3.05
FANCY COTTONS	3.26 to 4.30
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs.	1.30 to 3.50
Brocades—Dyed	3.75 to 4.50

Damasks	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.12 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	3.07 to 0.10
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.28
Velveteens—18 in.	0.16 to 0.20

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 0.85 per dozen

WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	per yard
German	0.60 to 0.95
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloth.	1.00 to 1.75
Long Ells—Scarlet	1.25 to 3.50
Assorted	per piece
1 Camlets—Assorted	6.90 to 8.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	7.00 to 8.10
Orleans—Plain	13.00 to 27.00
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	10.00 to 16.00
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.	8.00 to 9.60
METALS	per pair
Iron—Nail Rod	4.20 to 4.80

Square, Flat Round Bar	per picul
Swedish Bar	3.05 to —
Small Round Rod	3.00 to —
Hoop	4.75 to 4.80
Old Wire Rope	3.55 to —
Lead, Australian	4.50 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.	3.00 to —
Vivian's, 16/32 oz.	6.70 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz.	per case
Japan Copper, Slabs	25.50 to —
Tin	25.00 to —
Tin	24.50 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	24.75 to —
Tin	35.50 to 35.75

Tin-Plates	per box
Steel	4.90 to —
Steel	per cwt. case
Steel	4.25 to —

SUNDRIES

Quicksilver	per picul
Quicksilver	105.50 to —
Window Glass	per box
Window Glass	3.30 to —
Kerosene Oil	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	1.95 to —

SHANGHAI, 18th June.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—Since writing our last report settling-day, the fifth moon, has come and gone, but beyond being counted one day of the week it has not been included in the reckonings of the Native dealers, who continue to show great confidence in the position of the markets. Buying has again been done on a liberal scale, but at the close there are signs indicating that dealers are beginning to think they have bought enough for the present, and it is possible the market may be quieter for a time in consequence of the large settlements, noted in our last, which were made for autumn delivery, and it remains to be seen whether the native buyers have made a proper forecast as to the course of the market or whether by waiting they could have done better. News from Tientsin is much better, and to judge from the prices ruling there dealers must be doing very well on their recent purchases. It is rumoured that the smaller dealers had some difficulty in getting their goods on to the market owing to the opposition of the more influential hong, but an amicable arrangement has been arrived at which seems to please all connected with the trade. Clearances to this port have been large, especially of American Goods, and the manner in which dealers are preparing to pay for goods, expected shortly, ought to please importers. Advices from Newchwang, Chefoo, and Hankow continue very satisfactory, but from Szechuen they are scarcely so good owing to the usual spring floods in that district.

Metals.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report).—19th June:—The frequent rain of late has kept dealers indoors and added to the general dullness that has only been relieved by a temporary brisk demand during last week for Scrap Material. New Metals continue neglected and I have no contracts to report. There is some enquiry for Spelter and none can be had locally, but buyers do not seem very much inclined to order by wire. In nailrods nothing has been done. Scotch are quoted at £6. 5s. 0d., c.i.f. Sohler Exp. and other Belgian brands at £6. 0s. 0d., c.i.f. Bar Iron is also quoted at £6. 6s. 6d., c.i.f. One sale has been made of Bar, special brand, at £6. 16s. 0d., c.i.f.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 23rd June.—The market has ruled fairly active during the week under review, but rates have in most cases slightly declined. A sudden stop of the demand for shares in Shanghai, which has been our chief buying element for some months, is chiefly responsible for this weakness in rates. The approaching settlements also seem to be having

some effect on our market, and no immediate improvement in rates may be looked for.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have again nearly dropped out of the market, and beyond a few sales at 190 per cent. prem. cash we have nothing to report. Nationals have remained on offer at \$29, without finding buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders continue on offer at \$79½, and \$79 would in all probability be accepted by sellers. Unions have further improved to \$237½ with small sales, and close firm at that rate. Cantons have changed hands at \$200, and more could be placed at the rate. Straits have ruled quiet, and small sales reported at \$28½. Yangtszes and North China have found small buyers at quotations.

INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been negotiated at \$337½, closing at that. Chinas with a few parcels offering from Shanghai have been rather quieter with only small sales at \$96 and \$97, market closing with sellers at \$97.

SHIPPING.—All shipping stocks have been more or less neglected, especially Douglasses and Hongkong, Canton, and Macaos, which close quiet after small sales at \$63, \$62½, and \$34½ respectively. Indo-Chinas have found buyers in fair lots at \$66, and China Manilas have changed hands at \$73 and \$74, closing firm.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars, with a succession of selling orders from Shanghai and no local buyers, have ruled very weak. The persistent demand for offers from Shanghai makes it appear as if no reasonable offer would be refused, but in the absence of actual business the quotation of \$112 must be regarded as nominal. Luzons have also been freely offered from the North and small sales have been effected at \$68 and \$66, market closing with buyers at latter rate, and enquiries from some quarters at a higher rate.

MINING.—Operators in Punjoms have been hanging back for the result of the cyanide May clean up, which only came to hand yesterday. 860 tons tailings yielded 293 oz. bullion of an average assay value of £1 18s. per oz., equal to about 140 oz. of their ordinary market gold. This was apparently not looked upon as satisfactory, and shares which had ruled steady all the week at \$15½ to \$15¾ were now freely offered at \$14½; market closes at \$14½. Raubs have been quiet with only small sales at quotation. Olivers have ruled rather weaker at \$8 for A and \$3.75 for B shares. Balmorals have also gone back a little, sales having been effected at \$2.75 in small lots. We take this opportunity of contradicting the statement which appeared in our last two issues in reference to the transfer of these two Companies to the Anglo and Australian Co. The General Managers of the Olivers on the 18th inst. informed the public through the medium of the press that the transfer had not been completed, so we presume the telegram as published in the *China Mail* of the 9th inst., and circulated among at the shareholders on the 10th, was incorrect.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue more or less neglected and we have no sales to report. Kowloon Wharves.—On the decision of the directors to lease the Wanchai Godowns for ten years, sales were effected at \$54, \$54½, and \$55 in fair numbers; later the market weakened and shares were freely offered at \$53, with sales. At time of writing shares are steady at \$52. Wanchai Godowns are enquired for at \$45, but we have heard of no sales.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled steady and in demand at \$72; sales have been effected at that rate and market closes steady. Hotels.—After a period of inaction in which holders vainly offered to sell, Hongkongs have fallen suddenly with sales to \$26. The cause of this slump appears to be the failure of negotiations for an amalgamation with the Mount Austin Hotel, which we learn were in progress.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands continue in favour at \$17½ with sales. Watsons have changed hands during the week at \$12½ and \$12½, closing with sellers. Electrics have ruled neglected but steady at quotation and at time of writing could be placed in small lots at \$7.10 ex div. Ropes have been a little quieter with small sellers, and no sales, at \$126. Fenwicks have also ruled quieter with small sales and sellers at \$28.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	190 p. ct. prem. = [362.50]
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$29
Founders Shares...	£1	\$115, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$7, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$6, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$5
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$3
China Sugar	\$100	\$112, sellers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$0.50 sales
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$28, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$17½, sales
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$100, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$7, ex. div. buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$96
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$26, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$108
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$52, sales
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$126, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	183 p. ct. prem. = [354.37, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$200, sales & sellers
China Fire	\$50	\$97, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$79, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$337½, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 20
Straits	\$20	\$28½, sales
Union	\$25	\$237½, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$137½, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$72, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18½, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$68, buyers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$72½
Jebeu	\$5	\$3, sales & buyers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$2.75
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$3, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$4, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$14, sales & buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.70
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.50, sales & sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$74, sales & buyers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£7.10, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8.10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$63, sales & buyers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$34, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$66, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.25, sal. & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 19th June.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—A rise in the London market, and a corresponding improvement in Hongkong, caused a demand on our market, and shares were placed for cash at 185 and 188 per cent. premium. On time, shares were placed at 195 for August, and 197 for September, chiefly from Hongkong. There are more time sellers at these rates. Shipping.—There is not much business to report under this head. Indo-China S. N. shares were sold to Hongkong at \$66, and locally at Tls. 47. Business was also done for 31st August at Tls. 49½. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares were sold to Hongkong for delivery on the 30th current at \$34. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were sold, for delivery on the 30th September, at Tls. 217½. Marine Insurance.—North Chinas were sold at Tls. 200. Unions are wanted. Yangtszes, after touching \$125, rapidly recovered to \$135, at which business was done, and shares are wanted. A sale was also made at \$137½ for delivery on 31st July. Straits have changed hands at \$28½ and \$28½. Shares are now held for higher rates. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs are quoted \$337½ in Hongkong. Chinas have been sold locally at \$94 cash and for the end of the month, and to Hongkong at \$96. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares are offering at Tls. 123. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares are offering at \$52. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares were placed at \$15½, and one or two lots of Raub Australian Gold Mining shares at \$5½. Tugs.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares were placed at Tls. 200 and Tls. 210 ex div. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were sold at Tls. 4½. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were sold, for delivery on the 31st October, at \$120. Luzon Sugar Refining shares were wanted at \$63, but are held for higher prices.

Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares, fully paid up, have been sold at Tls. 82 and Tls. 82½. Hongkong Land Investment shares are wanted at \$72. Industrial.—Shares in Major Brothers were sold at Tls. 44, and are wanted. Holders now ask Tls. 45. Ewo Cotton S. & W. shares have been placed at Tls. 85. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares have changed hands at Tls. 650 and Tls. 625 cash and Tls. 800 for the 30th November. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 66, and Hall & Holtz shares at Tls. 23. Quotations are:—
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—\$360.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$29.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—\$115.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£2.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 47.
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—£8.50.
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—£3 1s. 6d.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$33½.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$60.
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 207.50.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 210.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$348½.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$79½.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 200.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$230.
Yangtze Insce. Assocn., Ltd.—\$135.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$200.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$28½.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$325.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$95.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 125.
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 55.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$52.50.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 3½.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$15½.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3½.
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$2.80.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$5½.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 200.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 185.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 4½.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$114½.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$62.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid).—Tls. 81½.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (\$3 paid).—Tls. 60.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$71.
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$19.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9½.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 44.
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 85.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.
Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 155.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 260.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 256.
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 120.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 625.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 66.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$70.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$33.
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$12½.
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$8.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$7.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS
TUESDAY, 23rd June.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.77
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.82
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.24

ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	53½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	187
Bank, on demand	187½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	187
Bank, on demand	187½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	16 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	¾ % pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	8.93
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	46.80

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 19th June (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—The past fortnight has not been productive of any new feature in our homeward freight market; there still seems to be a very small demand for tonnage to London, and departing steamers have not received as much support as was expected, as Hankow has not contributed very largely. For the Continent business has been very brisk and the vessels bound in this direction have received their full allotments, the German mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich* having left yesterday with a very large cargo. For New York there has been no departure since the *Benader* on the 4th inst.; although the steamer *Hankow* took the berth immediately, she has had very little encouragement and it is more than likely that she will be detained until close on to the end of the month. The steamer *Glenogle* due in a few days from Japan is the first new season steamer and will no doubt receive better support, as she will probably fall in for the *Pingsueys*, which market will open, perhaps, in a few days. Homeward rates are:—London by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; Northern Continental ports, general cargo 37s. 6d.; waste silk 40s.; tea 40s.; New York, general cargo 40s.; tea 40s.; New York via London, general cargo 40s.; tea 45s.; Boston, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s.; Philadelphia, general cargo 45s.; tea 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London by Shell Line, general cargo 35s. less 10 per cent.; Hamburg, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; New York, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent. Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 35s. net; Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 35s. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York by sail, 20s. nominal; New York by Pacific Lines, little doing. Coast rates are:—Mojito to Shanghai \$1.20 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.20 per ton coal. Disengaged vessels in port.—*Eclipse*, American ship, 1,496 tons register; *Aida*, American schooner, 507 tons register; *C. S. Bement*, American ship, 1,899 tons register; *Fannie Skoldfeldt*, British barque, 1,024 tons register; *Helen Brewer*, Hawa. ship, 1,511 tons register; *Stuntard*, American ship, 1,461 tons register; *W. H. Talbot*, American schooner, 743 tons register; *Pollalorch*, British ship, 2,139 tons register.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Kaiser-i-Hind* (str.), *Japan* (str.), *Hector* (str.), *Glengarry* (str.), *Carmarthenshire* (str.), *Agamemnon* (str.), *Pakling* (str.).
 FOR HAVRE.—*Gerda* (str.).
 FOR MAR-ELLES.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA.—*Victoria* (str.).
 FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Belgie* (str.), *China* (str.), *Socotra* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Gerard C. Tobey*, *Sintram*, *Com. T. H. Allen*, *T. F. Oakes*, *Lucile*, *Manuel Laguno*, *Hankow* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Guthrie* (str.), *Tsinan* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

June—ARRIVALS.

18, Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.
 18, Esau, British str., from Canton.
 18, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
 18, Evandale, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
 18, Mafila, British str., from Yokohama.
 18, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
 18, Ocampo, British str., from Saigon.

18, Strathleven, British str., from Saigon.
 18, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
 18, Redpole, British g-bt., from Canton.
 18, Congo, Spanish bark, from Manila.
 18, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.
 19, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 19, Sulton, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 19, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 19, Inverlay, British str., from Newchwang.
 19, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 19, Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, from Kobe.
 19, Holstein, German str., from Hongay.
 19, Ingraban, German str., from Singapore.
 19, Tailee, German str., from Bangkok.
 20, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 20, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
 20, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
 20, Apenrade, German str., from Saigon.
 20, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
 20, Moyune, British str., from Foochow.
 20, Phra C. C. Klao, British str., from B'kok.
 21, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
 21, Benlarig, British str., from Saigon.
 21, Glengarry, British tr., from Swatow.
 21, Mascotte, British str., from Saigon.
 21, Picciola, German str., from Canton.
 21, Spinaway, British b'tine, from Albany.
 21, Utrecht, Dutch str., from Swatow.
 21, Woolwich, British str., from Singapore.
 21, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
 21, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
 21, Brunhilde, German str., from Bangkok.
 22, Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
 22, Yueusang, British str., from Manila.
 22, Clara, German str., from Amoy.
 22, Wingsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 22, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 22, Szechuen, British str., from Canton.
 22, Chihli, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Orono, British str., from Sydney.
 22, Loksang, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Propontis, British str., from Penang.
 23, Prometheus, British str., from Liverpool.
 23, Belgic, British str., from San Francisco.
 23, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 23, Caledonien, French str., from Shanghai.
 23, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 23, Fausang, British str., from Canton.
 23, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 23, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 23, Oceana, German str., from Hamburg.
 23, Albingia, German str., from Saigon.

June—

DEPARTURES.

18, Germania, German str., for Amoy.
 18, Fausang, British str., for Canton.
 18, Bengloe, British str., for Kobe.
 18, Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Frogner, Norw. str., for Moji.
 18, Gisela, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 18, Hyson, British str., for Singapore.
 18, Hupeh, British str., for Singapore.
 18, Martha, German str., for Nagasaki.
 18, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 18, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., for Nagasaki.
 18, Rosetta, British str., for Europe.
 18, Rattler, British g-bt., for Bangkok.
 19, Inchdune, British str., for Bangkok.
 19, Manila, British str., for Singapore.
 19, Benlawers, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Esang, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Inverlay, British str., for Canton.
 19, Mongkut, British str., for Bangkok.
 19, Verona, British str., for Yokohama.
 19, Whampoa, British str., for Australia.
 19, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 20, Progress, German str., for Tauron.
 20, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
 20, Petrarh, German str., for Saigon.
 20, Keongwai, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Elise, Norwegian bark, for Puget Sound.
 20, Chusan, German str., for Saigon.
 20, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
 20, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Rohilla, British str., for London.
 20, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Cosmopolit, German str., for Manila.
 21, Evandale, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
 21, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 21, Gov. Robie, Amr. ship, for New York.
 22, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 22, Britannic, Norw. str., for Port Wallut.
 22, Chihli, British str., for Canton.
 22, Glengarry, British str., for London.
 22, Szechuen, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Holstein, German str., for Hongay.
 23, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.

23, Loksang, British str., for Canton.
 23, Picciola, German str., for Chafoo.
 23, Prinz Heinrich, German str., for Europe.
 23, Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.
 23, Utrecht, British str., for Hoihow.
 23, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 23, Nanchang, British str., for Taiwanfoo.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Zafiro*, str., from Manila.—Messrs. W. ley and Hayashi, and Misses Green and Dr. Per *Hongkong*, str., from Manin-Bay, and Mrs. Jack and 2 children.
 Per *Tacoma*, str., from Tacoma.—M. Melhuish.
 Per *Manila*, str., from Yokohama for Hongkong.—Messrs. J. H. Dathan and S. J. For London.—Mr. A. E. Ward. From Shanghai.—Mrs. Forbes and 3 children, and Mr. Barry and child. From Foochow.—Miss and Miss Rennie.
 Per *Machew*, str., from Bangkok, &c.—Miss Loader, Mr. Essen.
 Per *Hailoong*, steamer, from Coast Ports.—Messrs. Mannich, Pollard, Petersen, and Evan, and Mrs. Collaco.
 Per *Ernest Simons*, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles, &c.—Messrs. G. Evans, Ali At Chi, Ching Fo, and Lam Lo. From Bombay.—Mr. Apo. From Singapore.—Mr. J. D. Ross. From Saigon.—Messrs. L. Gnidter and Yersin, and Dr. C. Yersin. For Shanghai from Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. Toche and child, Messrs. Cheauveau, Capel, and Devoye. From Singapore.—Mrs. Cecilia Bennertz, Mrs. Skun and Mrs. Sieko. For Kobe from Singapore.—Messrs. T. Takaka and Hoyeyol. For Yokohama from Marseilles.—Messrs. Aden Arend and Luis de la Barrera. From Bombay.—Messrs. W. E. Leveson, Toshima, and B. Ariga. From Singapore.—Messrs. Mashuyama and Hayashi, and Capt. Cossons.
 Per *Yuen Sang*, str., from Manila.—Messrs. F. Imthurn, T. S. Morrison, E. Secker, and Capt. Gerrish.
 Per *Hohenzollern*, str., from Nagasaki, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Waltz, Mrs. Pfeil and daughter, Messrs. C. Karcher, T. Looby, Wm. Peebles, T. Little, T. Stallberg, Klebukofsky and family.
 Per *Prinz Heinrich*, str., from Shanghai.—Admiral Haffmann, Lieut. Deimling, Baron von Goltz, Mrs. Brown, Miss Brownbow, Messrs. Spitz, Leigh and wife, Odabasler, Koosmetzheff and family.
 Per *Orono*, str., from Sydney.—Messrs. S. Donaldson and Yokohama.
 Per *Loksang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Miss Enzmann, Mr. P. Pollard.

DEPARTED.

Per *Rosetta*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore.—Capt. H. S. Langhorne, Messrs. A. H. Eastwood and C. Tucker. For Colombo.—Mr. C. Pye. For London.—Mr. O. E. Smith, Staff Quarter-Master Sergeant and Mrs. C. Gornell, Mr. E. P. Atkin, Sergeant Alex. Campbell, Sergeant and Mrs. Beckenham. From Shanghai for London.—Messrs. W. Morrison Harvie, D. McFarland, Misses Meyer and Forsberg. From Yokohama for Singapore.—Messrs. Lowe, Schubert, and Jones, Miss Arnold, Miss Mountcastle, Mr. and Mrs. Trummell, Mr. and Mrs. Courtney. For Bombay.—Lieut. Col. A. Jones, Capt. J. T. Allan. For Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. Willard. From Kobe for Bombay.—Lieut. W. C. Symon. For London.—Mr. and Mrs. Pickering. From Nagasaki for London via Bombay.—Mr. J. Kerr Bell.
 Per *Verona*, str., from Hongkong for Yokohama.—Messrs. Wm. Hardwick, P. Clarke, A. H. Skelton, H. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bane and 2 children, Messrs. W. King and Todoroki. For Kobe.—Messrs. E. W. Townsend and Y. Hayashi. For Yokohama from London.—Mrs. Morris and child, Miss Morris. From Brindisi.—Mr. John A. Scrimgeour.
 Per *Whampoa*, str., for Sydney.—Mr. and Mrs. Howell.
 Per *Zafiro*, str., for Manila.—Mr. and Mrs. H. D. C. Jones, Messrs. E. H. Warner and Hy Sledge.